

MEN'S BREAKFAST - THE WORLD HATES YOU!

1. Have you ever been to a large group or reunion of someone else's family? How did you feel?
2. *What are some things that you hate or dislike?
3. Why are some non-Christians antagonistic toward Christianity?
4. What causes people to hate each other?

John 15:18-16:4 (NIV)

¹⁸ "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. ¹⁹ If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. ²¹ They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me. ²² If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin. ²³ He who hates me hates my Father as well. ²⁴ If I had not done among them what no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. But now they have seen these miracles, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. ²⁵ But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.'

²⁶ "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. ²⁷ And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:1} "All this I have told you so that you will not go astray. ² They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God. ³ They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. ⁴ I have told you this, so that when the time comes you will remember that I warned you. I did not tell you this at first because I was with you.

DISCUSSION:

1. Since the emphasis of this chapter was love, why does Jesus now talk about hate?
2. What does Jesus mean here by "the world"? How is the disciples relationship to the world like Jesus relationship to it?
3. What did Jesus want His disciples to keep in mind? ([15:18](#))
4. Whom does the world love? ([15:19](#))
5. Why does the world hate Jesus' disciples? ([15:19](#))
6. What did Jesus want His disciples to remember? ([15:20](#))
7. What difference does it make that the world does not know God? ([15:21](#))
8. Why do the people of the world have no excuse for their sin? ([15:22](#))
9. How has Jesus coming highlighted the reality and evil of sin?
10. What is the significance of hating Jesus? ([15:23](#))
11. What has made the world fully accountable for its sin? ([15:24](#))
12. What did the world's hatred fulfill? ([15:25](#))
13. What would the Counselor do when He came? ([15:26](#))
14. Why did Jesus say that His disciples must testify about Him? ([15:27](#))
15. For what reason did Jesus tell the disciples these things? ([16:1,4](#))
16. What was going to happen to the disciples for following Christ? ([16:2-3](#))
17. What kind of treatment can the disciples expect from those who do not know Christ
18. Who is a major character in the new testament that might be an example of [16:2](#). What circumstances today are examples of [16:2](#)?

Luke 6:22 (NIV) Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.

Colossians 1:12-14 (NIV) 2 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. 13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Peter 4:3-4 (NIV) 3 For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do--living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. 4 They think it strange that you

do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you.

Psalms 69:4 (NIV) Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head; many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me. I am forced to restore what I did not steal.

Psalms 35:19 (MSG) Don't let these liars, my enemies, have a party at my expense, Those who hate me for no reason, winking and rolling their eyes.

2 Corinthians 4:7-11 (NIV) 7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 8 We are hard pressed on every

side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. 10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. 11 For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body.

1 Peter 4:12-13 (NIV) 12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

REFLECTION:

1. When have you found that speaking the truth and showing love and showing love can lead to hostility from others? How do you explain that?

2. How do you handle people who are religious but not Godly?

3. What is "the world"?

4. When have you had to disobey someone in authority in order to be obedient to God?

5. What were the consequences of your choice?

6. Is it easier or harder to obey God instead of human authorities when you are unsure of the consequences you will face? Explain.

7. What kinds of persecution are most probable for us in our society? Explain.

8. If we as Christians are not persecuted in some way, what might that imply about our spiritual commitment?

9. If you were one of Jesus' twelve disciples, how would you have responded to His warning about the world's hatred?

10. How does the world today hate the followers of Jesus?

11. When have you experienced the hatred of the world?

12. How does the world today display its hatred for Jesus and God?

13. How has God chosen you out of the world?

14. How and when do you still feel a part of the world?

15. Who is "the Counselor"?

16. How does the Holy Spirit testify about Jesus to the world?

17. How are you a testimony for Jesus?

