

Sunday Sermon Notes

"Defeat from the Jaws of Victory"

Singing praises for his loved ones:

Children:

Forgiven through Christ
Intimate with the Father

Fathers:

Wise in knowledge
Experienced in life

Young men:

Strong through the Spirit
Victorious over the enemy

It is God's desire that we live victorious lives:

Over sin through forgiveness
Over separation through divine relationships
Over opposition through strength

The threat to Christian security: *Loving the World*

"The World": That which is not God
That which is opposed to God
That which distracts from God

"Loving": What I desire
What I sacrifice for
What I make my priority

Strong words of warning:

"If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

Objects of misguided love:

Things for which I crave and lust
Things I own and possess
Things I have done and accomplished

A mistake I'll never get over:

Trading the temporary for the eternal

Digging Deeper

**Notes for Individual Meditation
and Small Group Discussion**

Reviewing the Sermon:

With which phase of Christian experience do you most identify: children, father, young man? How do you also identify with the other two?

After being a Christian for a while, most of us fall into some sort of "comfort zone." In what ways do you think this is good and in what ways is it bad?

How have you most felt the desire to trade love of God for love of the world? Why do you think all of us seem to have problems with falling into love of the world?

What are the characteristics of the things of the world that cause us to want to trade eternal things for temporary things? Are there any ways that you find yourself struggling with that right now?

Bible Study: John 15:18 – 16:4

Discussion Questions

(Remember that not all questions must be used)

In the sermon, Pastor warned us against falling into the "love of the world." In this passage we are warned that we will also experience the "hate of the world" for us. In both cases, however, we are being warned against those things that threaten our relationship with God and our eternal destiny.

What does Jesus observe about whom the world hates and whom it has hated first? Why is this important to know?

How do you think the fact that Jesus has chosen us out of the world causes the world to then hate us?

What does verse 20 teach concerning the inevitability that his disciples would be persecuted? What might this imply if we find we are not experiencing opposition from the world?

In verse 21 Jesus makes the connection between his disciples and Himself and the One who sent him. What does he teach is the core reason for the world hating the disciples?

What does verses 22 – 25 teach us about the effect of Jesus' ministry has had on those who oppose him? Can you think of any ways this might still be true in our day?

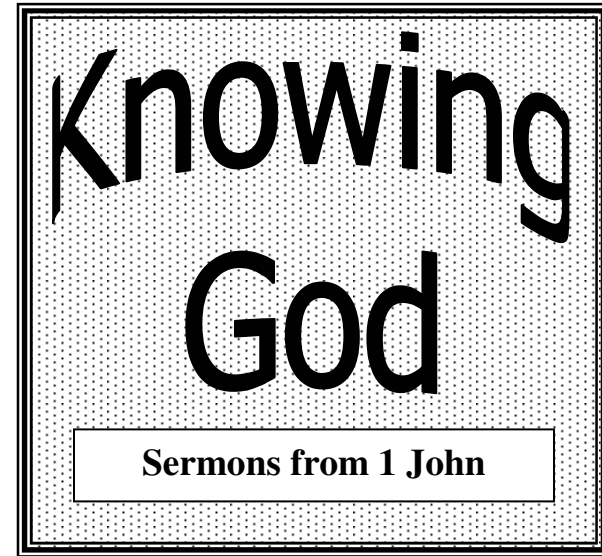
The "Counselor" is the word Jesus uses to refer to the Holy Spirit. How does what the Counselor does help us to deal with the hatred of the world?

What is the reason Jesus gives in 6:1 for what he is teaching his disciples? How real do you think the danger is of them going astray? In how much danger are we in this day?

What does Jesus say will be the motives of those who will persecute the disciples? How do we see the same thing happening today?

In verse 4 Jesus explains further why he is teaching his disciples so they will be ready for persecution when it comes. How does knowing what Jesus has taught about the hatred of the world and persecution help them to be prepared?

If you regularly use these discussion question, either in a group or as an individual, please let us know. Call the church office and leave a message that you would like for us to continue printing these with these "Digging Deeper" resources.



June 22, 2008

1 John 2:12-17

***"Defeat from the
Jaws of Victory"***

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Master copy of notes and audio version of the sermon at
www.middletownnaz.com