BEFORE The Day

Pastor Lance Ainsworth John 15:16-16:4

MESSAGE NOTES

Thursday, March 7 Sunday, March 10

Introduction:

John 15:16 NASB 16You did not choose Me by I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.	notes
Christianity starts with a personal relationship with Jesus, which produces public fruit.	
John 15:18-27 NASB 18"If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. 19If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.	
The world refers to a world system ruled by Satan. The "world" is mentioned 57 times in John.	
The world is not Jesus' enemy; it is His mission.	
20Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also. 21But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me.	
It's an honor to be hated in the name of Jesus.	
22If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. 23He who hates Me hates My Father also. 24If I had not done among	

them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well. 25But they have done this to fulfill the word that is written in their Law, 'They hated Me without a cause.'	notes
God uses temporal persecution for eternal impact.	
26" When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me, 27and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.	
Our testimony is centered around the work and life of Jesus.	
John 16:1-4 NASB 16"These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling. 2They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God. 3These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me. 4But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.	
A public faith in Jesus will bring persecution.	
God uses persecution for eternal impact, so you don't stop engaging the world.	
"The people at GateWay responded."	

GROUP DISCUSSION

The Day Before the Day John 15:16-16:4 Pastor Lance Ainsworth March 7th & 10th, 2024 Purpose in Persecution

Prayer Requests:

Group Discussion: What is your favorite underdog story?

Read Aloud: John 15:16-16:4

- 1. v. 19 "but I chose you out of the world." Did God choose you out of the world like the disciples? If He chose us out, what did He bring us into? What primary values differ from the world's system and God's Kingdom?
- 2. Acts 5:40-41 " 40 They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them. 41 So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name." Have you experienced persecution because of your belief in Jesus? What is the difference between persecution and criticism? Why did the disciples rejoice in persecution?
- 3. v. 1 "These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling." Jesus warns the disciples of future suffering. How does expecting persecution keep us from stumbling? If you could ask the disciples one question, what would it be?
- 4. "The people at GateWay responded." How can we engage the world Jesus died for? Who needs to hear and see your testimony? How does abiding in Jesus help us engage the world?