

1 John 2:15-17 English Standard Version (ESV)

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. **17** And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Discussion/Journal Questions

Read 1 John 2:15-17. Meditate on the phrase “Do not love the world or the things in the world.” What kind of love is the author writing about? What does this love for the world look like?

Read Matthew 6:24. How is love for God and the world like a seesaw? Is it possible to love God and the world equally?

In verse 16, the author mentions three that are not from the Father but from the world. What are they? Can you think of an example of each? How have you experienced or been tempted by these three?

The author says that “the world is passing away along with its desires.” Not only is this true in an ultimate sense, but also in an everyday sense. What are some of the ways that things in this world pass away leaving us unsatisfied?

Read Matthew 6:19-21. How do you feel when something you own or possess is stolen, broken, or becomes obsolete? Why do we feel this way?

What is the connection between love for God and doing His will? Is it possible for someone to profess faith in God but never move towards obedience? Why does this happen?

How can your group help you grow in love and obedience to God?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?