



**TEXT: JOHN 15:18-16:15**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Rooted, our student ministry life group for 6-12th graders, is relaunching to Wednesday nights beginning Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30 PM in the worship center! They will meet on Sunday evenings until then.

**Pray for those around the world who are persecuted for their faith in Christ.**

---

**Leading Off...**

1. What are some things we generally don't talk about in public?
2. What about in the church?

**BIG IDEA: Jesus is hated and His people will be too.**

**Read John 15:18-20**

3. In verse 18, what is John meaning when he says the word, "*world*"?
4. Does Jesus ever tell us that if we follow Him our life will be better? Why do you think this is something that has crept into today's American Christian (churchianity) culture?
5. What can we do when the world closes in around us?
6. Can someone share a time when they learned to lay hold of Christ in the midst of pain and suffering?
7. In verse 19, what is Jesus saying about how we are saved?
8. What is the difference between being offensive and hated for being a Christ-follower, versus just being unlikeable and offensive?
9. What should we consider when the world hates us?
10. What is the difference between mockery (which is the most we tend to experience) and actual persecution?

**Read John 15:21-27**

11. So, when the world presses upon us, what do Jesus' words mean for the Christian?

**Read John 16:1-4a**

12. How does the principle of "all scripture is written for us, but not spoken to us", apply to these verses?
13. In thinking about baptism, how does it apply to today's passage?



**Read John 16:4b-11**

14. Why does Jesus say it was important for Him to go away?
15. What is Jesus saying about the importance of the coming Holy Spirit?
16. How is the Holy Spirit a reminder to Satan that his rule is coming to an end?

**Read John 16:12-15**

17. What is the chief work of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life?
18. Therefore, what is the evidence that the Holy Spirit is at work in one's life?
19. Why does Satan hate the believer?

**Wrapping Up**

20. How does this passage encourage you in your faith?
21. How should this passage direct your prayer life?