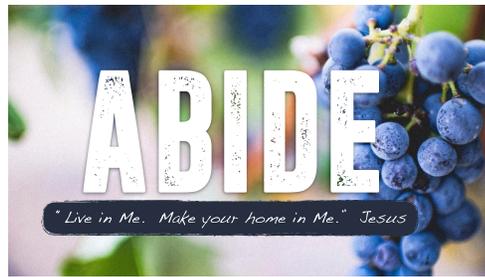


# SEQUOIA NOTES

## Today's Sequoia Message...

### Costly Discipleship

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor  
June 5, 2022



- **It will cost us much to follow Jesus Christ.**

John 15:18-16:4 (NLT) “If the world hates you, remember that it hated me first. <sup>19</sup> The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you.<sup>20</sup> Do you remember what I told you? ‘A slave is not greater than the master.’ Since they persecuted me, naturally they will persecute you. And if they had listened to me, they would listen to you. <sup>21</sup> They will do all this to you because of me, for they have rejected the one who sent me. <sup>22</sup> They would not be guilty if I had not come and spoken to them. But now they have no excuse for their sin. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who hates me also hates my Father.<sup>24</sup> If I hadn’t done such miraculous signs among them that no one else could do, they would not be guilty. But as it is, they have seen everything I did, yet they still hate me and my Father. <sup>25</sup> This fulfills what is written in their Scriptures: ‘They hated me without cause.’ <sup>26</sup> “But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me. <sup>27</sup> And you must also testify about me because you have been with me from the beginning of my ministry. <sup>1</sup> “I have told you these things so that you won’t abandon your faith. <sup>2</sup> For you will be expelled from the synagogues, and the time is coming when those who kill you will think they are doing a holy service for God.<sup>3</sup> This is because they have never known the Father or me. <sup>4</sup> Yes, I’m telling you these things now, so that when they happen, you will remember my warning. I didn’t tell you earlier because I was going to be with you for a while longer.” Let’s unpack this a little...

- **The kingdom of the world opposes the Kingdom of Christ.**

<sup>1</sup> John 2:15-17 (NLT) “Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. <sup>16</sup> For the world offers only a *craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions*. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. <sup>17</sup> And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.”

- **The world = the system of values & ideals that sets itself up against Christ as King.**

- **In the world we see...Craving for physical pleasure.** “lust of the flesh” (NIV)
- **In the world we see...Craving for everything we see.** “lust of the eyes” (NIV)
- **In the world we see... Craving for status.** “pride of life” (NIV)

- **The “world” is the rival kingdom that vies for our allegiance.**

- **We were created for allegiance to the One True King.**  
v. 19 “you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world.”

James 4:4 (NLT) “You adulterers! Don’t you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.”

- **Because the world opposes Jesus it opposes Christ’s disciples.**

v. 18 “If the world hates you, remember that it hated me first.”  
v. 21-22

- **If you stand for Jesus Christ you will face opposition.**

John 16:1 (AMP) “I have told you these things so that you will not stumble or be caught off guard and fall away.”

### How can you stand firm for Jesus Christ as you experience opposition?

- **Embrace Jesus as your King and prioritize His Kingdom.**

Ephesians 2:1-10

- **Embrace the witness of the Holy Spirit in your life.**

v. 26 “But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me.”

- **Embrace your purpose as a witness for Christ.**

v. 27 “And you must also testify about me because you have been with me from the beginning of my ministry.”

**Big Idea: Stand firm in the grace of Christ & the power of the Holy Spirit.**

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NIV) “Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we  
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To get plugged in email:

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**At Home in Christ**  
**#6 of 11 - June 5, 2022**

- 1) Last week we looked Listening to the Spirit of Truth from John 16:5-15. Did you get time to practice listening to the Spirit? How did that go for you? What do you sense God is saying to you through His Spirit in these days?
- 2) Take time to have one person explain and the practice the 3 Circles Gospel Presentation or share their testimony.
- 3) Read John 15:18-16:4. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer / speaker and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What's the theme of this chapter, or passage? What's the historical and cultural context?
- 4) **Observation:** What "jumps out" in these passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about this passage?
- 5) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What does Jesus mean by "the world"? What meaning is inferred in these passages for us and what does this tell us about the cost to following Christ?
- 6) What does 1 John 2:15-17 and James 4:4 tell us about the world?
- 7) Read Ephesians 2:1-10. What does this passage tell us about who we were before coming to Christ and who we are "in Christ"?
- 8) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through these verses and through this message? What does it look like for you to "stand firm in the grace of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit"?
- 9) In what ways can you and your IC be a "witness for Christ" where God has planted you?
- 10) How do these verses call on you to change the way you live? What step will you take today? What principles do you need to pass on to others this week?



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