

John 15:18-27

July 23, 2025

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Leo Loughmiller • John 15:18-27 • July 27, 2025

“...My Father is the gardener... and he cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.” (John 15:1-2)

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.” (John 15:18)

Anchor Point: Because the world rejected Jesus, His followers should expect opposition—but we are not alone, for the Holy Spirit empowers us to endure with faith and bear witness with courage.

1. You Were Never Meant to Fit In

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first... you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world.” (John 15:18-19)

Jesus never promised popularity.

“Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.” (Luke 6:26)

2. Truth Always Draws Fire

“If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me hates

my Father as well. If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.'" (**John 15:22-25**)

"Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head; many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me." (**Psalms 69:4**)

Resistance to the truth is not new - it's part of the story.

3. The Spirit in You Is Stronger Than the Pressure Around You

"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning." (**John 15:26-27**)

4. They Gave Everything Because They Knew It Was True

People may die for something they believe is true, but no one willingly dies for something they know is a lie.

"We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." (**Acts 4:20**)

"Whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it." (**Matthew 16:25**)

Question For Reflection

Q: Where in your life is God inviting you to stop blending in—and start boldly living as someone chosen by Him?