

Digging Deeper: John 15:18–16:4

Written by Rick Noonan (Elder at MACC)

Day 1

Remember to pray, asking for God's help so you can focus on His word, without distraction. Use a journal to write down your thoughts and feelings as you pray and study His Word this week. Read John 15:18–16:4. Have you ever been put down or made fun of because of something that you enjoy doing but others don't? Jesus feels your pain and suffering when you are put down because of Him. Check out Acts 9:4. What does Jesus yell at Saul?

Day 2

Find a quiet place to settle your mind, body and spirit. Read slowly, don't rush and meditate on each verse, turning to prayer to bring truths and ideas into a conversation with God. Read John 15:18–16:4. Is there anything the enemy can do to us that he hasn't already done to Jesus? Check out Hebrews 12:3, 2 Timothy 1:9-12 and 1 Peter 4:12–19. What is a common theme with these related verses?

Day 3

Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you dig deeper into His Word this week and what God wants you to learn today from some extra study on Sunday's message. Read John 15:18–16:4. What is the basic reason that a follower of Jesus will be rejected? See verse 21. What is the difference between knowing about someone versus actually knowing someone? Why do you think the Jews didn't take the time to get to know Jesus?

Day 4

Pray for others and ask God how He would have you come alongside neighbors and friends with grace and love today. Read John 15:18–16:4. If you had been alive during the time of Jesus, heard him preach and seen his miracles with your own eyes, what would you believe? Why didn't the Jews believe Jesus? See verses 24 and 25. What does Jesus say about this? See Psalm 35:19 and Psalm 69:4.

Day 5

Pray for how Jesus wants you to learn from His Word today. Read John 15:18–16:4. When were you baptized? Why did you want to get baptized? In verse 26, different versions of the Bible refer to the 'Helper' or 'The Advocate'. What is the definition of advocate, dictionary.com. Who is Jesus talking about here? What is He supposed to do for us? Read Matthew 3:13–16 and Galatians 5:22–23 for context about who. If you have not been baptized but want to be, please contact the church office and ask about our next Baptism Sunday.

Day 6

As you pray, reflect and discuss with Jesus and the Holy Spirit about the past days of the week and how you can apply your thoughts, feelings and answers above to use in your life for His glory. One last time, read John 15:18–16:4. Do you have a story to share about being put down or persecuted for knowing and following Jesus? Journal about it and if doing this study solo, consider phoning a friend or one of the elders or pastors to share and talk about it.