



Jesus' Farewell Word

Courage and Grace in a Strange World– John 15
March 5, 2023

Christians should not be surprised that unbelievers in the world hate them. It hated Jesus first. In this message, Pete Greasley traces some of the cultural shifts seen over the past 15 years, and takes us to the Upper Room, where Jesus prepares his people for future opposition.

For personal reflection/community discussion

Read – Read the passage in its context several times. Read it slow enough to understand what God is saying through it.

- What ideas or words are emphasised, repeated or related in this passage?
- In your own words, what is the main idea of this passage? (Try to summarise these verses in 10 words or less)

Examine – Next, try to understand the specifics of what the passage is communicating.

- What do you notice about God? What has he done/is he doing in these verses?
- What do you learn about Jesus and his gospel from this passage?
- What does it reveal about people?
- How do you think the writer wanted his reader to respond to these words?

Apply - After seeking to understand God's Word in this passage, consider how he intends to use it in your heart and life today.

- Christians have a tendency to wag their heads at people in the world who want nothing to do with Christ, especially those who mock and despise our Christian faith. Ask your heavenly Father to grant you the ability to pity these people instead as you consider the judgment that awaits them. Jesus says that you are not of this world and so the world will persecute you. Take stock of your life. Do you find the tendency to be as much like the world as possible so that you do not stand out like a sore thumb? While Jesus does not expect you to unnecessarily alienate people, what can you do to counter the tendency to be conformed to the world?
- Toward the end of his message, Pete asked ‘where is the opposition being registered in your life?’ Consider this carefully. In light of the series as a whole, how would Jesus have you respond?
- Reflect on the privilege that it is to bear witness for Christ as His representative. Pray that He would embolden you to witness for Him and even use the very opposition you endure to draw someone to Himself.