

IN THE WORLD

CONNECT

To begin this Life Group, go around the table and introduce one another by sharing:

1. Your Name & The most embarrassing clothing item you've ever owned.

ENGAGE

We live in a difficult time in history. We live in a time of wars, natural disasters, school shootings, political chaos, racism, injustice, and well, as you know, the list could go and on. This season, we have the opportunity to discuss what the role Jesus followers in the world. Today we reflect on the last recorded prayer of Jesus in John 17:14-19.

It is important to remember that the word "world" in this prayer is not referring to the natural world. Nature is *not* against Jesus followers! Jesus is *not* against nature! The word "world" here is the Greek word *kosmos*, which refers to people who are separated from God.

In verse one, Jesus states that we are not of the world just as He is not of the world.

2. Using single words, how would you differentiate the two kingdoms described in this prayer (list as many single words as you can)

The World (*Kosmos*)
of God

The Kingdom

On Sabbath, we discussed that there are two dangers in trying to relate to the world: Isolation and Assimilation. For support, read what Jesus had to say about this in his prayer (v. 15)

3. Why is it dangerous for us to isolate ourselves from the *kosmos*?
4. Why is it dangerous for us to assimilate the culture of the *kosmos*?

In verse 17, Jesus prays that God may set us apart by the truth of his word.

5. Consider the *kosmos* we live in. What would it look like for you to view the *kosmos* through the lens of the gospel? Can you talk about how the gospel would influence the way you view or deal with specific issues? (Examples – racism, betrayal, politics, divorce, poverty, etc.)

CHALLENGE

Watch the *IMAGINE LA* video attached to this guide on the App, and have a discussion next week on whether you feel the gospel is calling you to something together. You'll see what we mean...