

JOHN 15:12-25

LOVE + HATE

WE ARE COMMANDED TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER BY JESUS

- Read John 15:12-17
- Why and how are Christians to love one another?
- Why is John 15:13 such a significant verse?
- Why did Jesus call His disciples friends, and what does it mean to be a friend of Jesus?
- Read and discuss John 15:16
- What does love for one another reveal (see John 13:34-35)?
- Why is it sometimes hard to love other Christians? Talk about a time where you have struggled to love another Christian and what you learned during that experience?

WE ARE EXPECTED TO BE HATED BY THE WORLD LIKE JESUS

- Read John 15:18-25
- Who, specifically, is Jesus referring to when He says the "world," and why would the people of the world hate Christians?
- Why does the world hate Jesus?
- What does it mean that Jesus chose Christians out of the world?
- Why should Christians expect to be persecuted?
- Read and discuss John 15:22-24. Why did those who saw the works Jesus did, but still rejected Him, bear even greater responsibility for such rejection?
- When was a time you have been persecuted, or perhaps even hated, for being a Christian. Discuss that experience and what you learned from it (e.g. Matthew 5:11-12).