

Study 3

Read 1 John 2:15-29

I. Do not love the world (15-17)

Discussion Questions

- What does “the world” refer to?
- Does that mean we should not love trees and oceans and animals? Then what?
- Why can we not love this world and God?
- What kind of things are in the world? Give some real examples of ways the world/culture influence people in these areas?
- How does worldly wisdom say we should handle these types of temptations?
- What is the reason given for why we should love God instead of this world?
- What is the result of loving God the most?
- If we love the world still, what does that say about us?
- How can you know which one you love more?

Application: What do you spend most of your time talking about? When you are with your closest friends, what do you talk about? Do you just talk about money, beauty, fashion, sports, etc. Or do you talk about the things of God?

II. Many antichrists are around and want to deceive (18-19)

Discussion Questions

- What does John call his readers in verse 18? Why?
- What does he mean that it is the “last hour”?
- How could he call it that since that was almost 2000 years ago and Jesus still hasn’t returned?
- Who is “that antichrist”?
- Who are the “many antichrists”?
- Who went out from who?
- Why should they not be considered believers (although they may still espouse some Christian sounding doctrines)?
- Can this “test” be applied to modern day false teachers?

III. Abide in Him, know the truth, do not believe antichrists (20-27)

Discussion Questions

- What does the anointing of the Holy Spirit have to do with antichrists and false doctrine?
- How do you think the Holy Spirit will keep us safe from false doctrines?
- How can we know the truth?
- What should you do if you hear a pastor/preacher/brother/sister sharing something that doesn’t sound quite right?

- What does John call people who deny Christ? Is that word strong? How can we reconcile this strong word “liar” with modern day culture, which tells us to be tolerant and understanding of people with other beliefs (Hint: we can’t. Also, those people are generally tolerant of anyone who agrees with them, but intolerant of anyone who believes in Christ.)
- Who is the first liar?
- What are some of the common lies that he propagates?
- What is a test to know if a person is a false teacher or not?
- What does the anointing refer to in verse 27?

IV. Be ready for His coming (28-29)

Discussion Questions

- What reason does verse 28 give for why we should maintain a close relationship to Christ?
- How will you feel if Christ comes back to find you doing the things mentioned in verses 16-17?
- Are you ready for Christ to come back?
- Will you be able to hold your head up high, smile, and welcome Him back? Or will you be ashamed and embarrassed?
- What is another test mentioned in verse 29 for how you can know you have been born again or not?

Application: Think of some ways that you can become more like Christ in the coming week. Write one down and resolve to work on improving. Then next week share with your group or partner how you did.