

October 10, 2021
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
John 15:18 – 16:4

“Witness to the World”

- I. Believer’s Relationship to Jesus (Abide) – 15:1-11
- II. Believer’s Relationship to Believers (Loving Friendship) – 15:12-17
- III. Believer’s Relationship to the World (Witness) – 15:18 – 16:4

A. The Picture (Jesus’ relationship to the world)

1. What

a.

b.

c.

2. Why

a.

b.

B. The Promises

1.

2.

3.

C. The Priority

So What?

Discussion & Application:

1. How are you doing at abiding in Jesus and in His Word? Is this an obvious priority in your daily schedule? Is the joy of the Lord evident in your life as a result?
2. What steps are you taking to initiate deeper friendships with people in the church?
3. In John 15:18, the word for hate can be defined: “to dislike intensely; to feel antipathy or aversion towards; to detest.” Some idiomatic phrases include: “to spit at in the heart” or “to kill in the heart.” Why did (does) the world hate Jesus? Does it always have to appear like hatred on the outside for Jesus to see it as hatred? (See Mt. 12:30) What are some ways that people in the world (religious or non-religious) express their hatred for Jesus?
4. If someone does not believe in and follow Jesus, what does that reveal about their relationship with God the Father? If religious people actually hate God the Father, why do they spend so much time in religious activities pretending to love Him? (See Jer. 17:9; Eccl. 9:3; Rom. 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:1-9)
5. In Jn. 15:22, 24, Jesus uses a phrase, “they would not have sin.” What did He mean by that? Some think that means we shouldn’t witness to people because then they won’t be accountable before God for rejecting Jesus. How would you answer that position biblically? What does Romans 1-3 teach about man’s accountability to God for sin?
6. Once again, Jesus speaks of the importance of the Holy Spirit in the lives of true disciples (see John 7:39; 14:16, 26; 15:26-27; 16:7-15). What ministry would the Holy Spirit have in the lives of believers after Jesus ascended to heaven? What ministry does He have in the world? How does He help us in our witness to the lost?
7. In John 16:1, what kind of “stumbling” is Jesus talking about? Why does Jesus tell them that they are going to be hated, persecuted, and possibly killed for being His witnesses? How did this help them when it happened? How does it help us?
8. How did Jesus witness to the world? What are some specific (practical) ways we can witness to the world? Share with others in your group how you use your personal testimony, gospel tracts, books / Bibles, DVDs, specific gospel presentations, etc.
9. Pair up in your group and practice taking one another through a gospel tract (i.e., “Life’s Most Important Question” or “Bridge to Life,” etc.). Pray for one another to have opportunities this week to do it with someone who does not know Jesus.
10. Practical suggestions this week: 1) Spend much time abiding in Jesus. Draw upon His grace and strength to develop deeper convictions about your relationship with Him and with others. 2) Give yourself to active fellowship in the church. Participate in a LIFE Group. Develop meaningful relationships where you spur each other on to greater love for Jesus and a more passionate commitment to make disciples. 3) Choose not to live by the fear of man (Prov. 29:25) but to have the boldness of a lion (Prov. 28:1; Acts 1:8; 4:31). Make a list of 5 to 10 people in your life who do not know Jesus (family, neighbors, co-workers...). Pray for them daily and then find ways to communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ to them. Tell them how Jesus has changed your life and how they too can experience His saving grace.