



Connect Group study

John 15 (part 2)

In this study, we'll see that it's not always a popular choice to follow Jesus. Jesus warns of this but also provides for us hope to overcome.

Read John 15:18-25

Reflect

Q1. Have you ever faced a difficulty or challenge at home, in work or in studies because of your faith? Ever been treated differently? Share your experience with the group.

Q2. John 15:19 says that Jesus has chosen us out of the world. What does it mean to be chosen by Jesus? What have we been taken out of and what have we been taken into? (Suggested verses: Colossians 1:13, John 15:16, Titus 3:3-7)

Q3. When we follow Jesus, we have the same response from others that Jesus experienced - we're loved or hated. What does this mean and how do we live in light of what Jesus is revealing in this passage? (Suggested verses: Matthew 5:44-45, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 2 Timothy 3:12-15, 1 John 3:13-15)

Q4. Read John 15:26-16:1. Jesus doesn't promise us an easy life when we follow Him but in the light of this challenge, Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit will come. What hope and encouragement can we take from this? (Suggested verses John 16:33)

Respond

Q5. Are you, or do you know someone who is facing challenges because of faith? How can we live with strength, love and perseverance?

Pray for one another to be strengthened against challenges that they are facing; to live with strength, wisdom and courage for Jesus. Pray for those who've treated us differently because we follow Jesus. You may also want to take a few moments to pray for the persecuted church around the world.

For more information see <http://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution>

Key verse(s)

"If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you." (John 15:19 NIV)