

Light & Life – The Book Of John  
Facing Adversity John 15:17-16:4  
Cornerstone Church Of Poway  
Pastor Ed Turley  
February 4, 2024

Sermon Notes

**Big Idea: A Devoted Follower Of Jesus Needs To Be Prepared For Adversity**

**Three Questions To Help Prepare You For Adversity**

**1. Are You Living As One Who Belongs To Jesus?**

<sup>17</sup> This is my command: **Love each other.** <sup>18</sup> "If the world **hates** you, keep in mind that it hated me first. <sup>19</sup> 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.** <sup>20</sup> Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' **If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also.** If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. **John 15:17-20 (NIV)**

Blessed are those who are **persecuted because of righteousness**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup> "Blessed are you when people **insult** you, **persecute** you and **falsely say all kinds of evil against you** because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because **great is your reward in heaven**, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. **Matthew 5:10-12 (NIV)**

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**2. Will You Stand Up For Who Jesus Claims To Be?**

<sup>21</sup> They will treat you this way **because of my name**, for they do not know the One who sent me. <sup>22</sup> If I had not come and **spoken** to them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have **no excuse** for their sin. <sup>23</sup> He who hates me hates my Father as well. <sup>24</sup> **If I had not done among them what no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin.** But now they have **seen** these miracles, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. <sup>25</sup> But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.' <sup>26</sup> "When the **Counselor** comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the **Spirit of truth** who goes out from the Father, **He will testify about me.** <sup>27</sup> And **you also must testify**, for you have been with me from the beginning. **John 15:21-27 (NIV)**

"For God **so loved** the world that He gave His one and only Son, that **whoever believes** in Him shall not perish but **have eternal life.** <sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to **condemn** the world, but to **save** the world through Him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is **not condemned**, but whoever does not believe **stands condemned** already because he has **not believed** in the **name of God's one and only Son.** <sup>19</sup> This is the **verdict: Light** has come into the world, but **men loved darkness instead of light** because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil **hates the light**, and will not come into the light for

**fear** that his deeds will be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever **lives by the truth comes into the light**, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been **done through God**." **John 3:16-21 (NIV)**

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **John 14:6 (NIV)**

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### **3. Is Your Heart Secure In The Sovereignty Of God?**

<sup>1</sup> "All this I have told you **so that you will not go astray**. <sup>2</sup> They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God. <sup>3</sup> They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. <sup>4</sup> I have told you this, so that when the time comes you will remember that I warned you. I did not tell you this at first because I was with you. **John 16:1-4 (NIV)**

His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup> The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been **counted worthy of suffering** disgrace for the Name. <sup>42</sup> Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they **never stopped teaching** and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ. **Acts 5:40-42 (NIV)**

What, then, shall we say in response to this? **If God is for us, who can be against us?**

<sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." <sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup> neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Romans 8:31-39 (NIV)**

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➤ Are you prepared for adversity?

### **My next right step, I will:**

☐ Accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior.

☐ Sign up for a small group [M-T-W-Th-F] ☐ Couples ☐ Men's ☐ Women's

☐ Attend Cornerstone's Membership Class February 25, 12:30 to 2PM



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**Small Group Leader:** Choose how many questions that will honor your time commitment. Encourage everyone to participate in either a question, reading or prayer. If using this as a family, use the icebreaker section to go deeper on Sunday's teaching.

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**Open in Prayer.**

**Icebreaker:**

Have you ever been in a group of people where you felt like a fish out of water? Why?

Since the emphasis in John 15:1-17 was about love, why does Jesus now talk about hate?

How is the relationship of followers to the world like the relationship of Jesus to the world?

Why are some non-Christians antagonistic toward Christianity?

**Are You Prepared For Adversity?**

**1. Are You Living As One Who Belongs To Jesus?**

**Read John 15:17-20**

How does your lifestyle reflect that you belong to Jesus?

Whom does the world love?

Why will the world hate disciples?

What did Jesus want His disciples to remember? V. 20

**Read Matthew 5:10-12**

Does it matter why we are persecuted, insulted, or falsely accused?

What promise is given if we face these things because of our faith in Jesus?

## **2. Do You Stand Up For Who Jesus Claims To Be?**

### **Read John 15:21-27**

What difference does it make that the world does not know God?

What is the significance of hating Jesus? V. 23

What has made the world fully accountable for sin? V. 24

What would the Counselor do when He came? 15:26

Why did Jesus say that His disciples must testify about Him?

### **Jesus Claims:**

#### **Read John 3:16-21**

What did Jesus claim about God's love?

What did Jesus claim about those who believe in Him?

What did Jesus claim about those who reject Him?

#### **Read John 14:6**

What did Jesus claim about Who He was?

## **3. Is Your Heart Secure In The Sovereignty Of God?**

### **Read John 16:1-4**

### **Read Matthew 10:17-20**

For what reason did Jesus tell His disciples about these things?

What was going to happen to the disciples? 16:2-3

### **Read Romans 8:31-39**

How well do you handle adversity? Does your faith get stronger or does it waver?

What difficulties surprise you in this passage?

What promises do you find in this passage?

Close in prayer: