

# *That You May Know*

An Improper Love — 1 John 2:15-17

February 24, 2019

Do not love the world or the things in the world...And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. -1 John 2:15, 17

## I. A BEAUTIFUL, ENTICING WICKEDNESS

- The world is not wicked in itself—it is fallen. It is that which is good, taken out of proportion or in an illicit context, that defiles us (Mark 7:14-15; Rom. 8:19-23).

\* The Love of the World Is Not...

- The appreciation of created things (Gen. 1:31; Ps. 8).
- The use of material things (Deut. 6:10-11; Prov. 24:3-4).
- The love of unbelievers (Luke 11:30-37).
- The involvement in “secular” work (Acts 10:1; 16:14).
- The enjoyment of relaxation and pleasure (Col. 2:20-23).

\* The Love of the World Is...

- Making an idol from good things (Matt. 10:34-39).
- To conform to the world and to desire it to the exclusion of God (Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Tim. 4:10; John 3:19-20).

## II. LIVING AS ALIENS IN A PASSING WORLD

- To love the world is to love that which is passing away (vs. 17; 1 Cor. 7:29-31; 1 John 2:8).
- We do not belong to this world, we belong to another (Matt. 13:44; 1 Pet. 2:10-12).

## III. WHAT MUST WE DO?

- Seek first God’s kingdom and the righteousness that accompanies it (Matt. 6:25-33).

**KNOW:** To love life in this world is to be at odds with God. Life is a gift, but it is not the greatest gift. Life in Christ is the greatest life of all, and everything should be given away in exchange for it.

**DO:** Love properly. Live forever.

### Suggested Reading:

*Pilgrim’s Progress* by John Bunyan (LifePoint Library #813.54 BUN)

*Little Pilgrim’s Progress* by Helen Taylor - An Adaptation of John Bunyan’s Classic for Children (LifePoint Library #814 TAY)

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

**Please Read 1 John 2:15-17**

1. What is John’s clear warning for us in this passage?
2. What is it about the “world” that is so bad?
3. What concepts come to your mind when you think of “the desires of the flesh,” “the desires of the eyes,” and “pride of life”?
4. What are some practical ways in which we can “do the will of God”?
5. What should we be focusing on since we are living in a world that is passing away? In what ways?
6. What are some of your takeaways from Sunday’s message or the passage it was based upon?