Sermon Title: **“The World’s Hatred”**

3-Fold Purpose: ***Love God, Love Others, Serve the World***

One Mission: ***Make Disciples***

4 Commitments:

***Shaped by the Word***

1. Read John 15:18–16:4. After reading this passage aloud, share with your life group your emotional reaction to what you’ve read.
   1. Why did you react the way you did?
   2. The Greek word for ‘world’ in this passage is *kosmos*, which has to do with the cultural order of things. In other words, it’s humankind’s way of living life and deriving meaning apart from the Creator. What then does it mean for you to be “not of the world” (vs. 19)?
   3. Paul states in Romans 12:2 to “not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”? How well are you doing in renewing your mind through God’s word? Share something from this week.
   4. If given the opportunity to safely (but illegally) download a song (or something similarly common), what specifically informs your decision? Is it scripture or something else? Discuss

***Surrendered to His Will***

1. Jesus states in vs. 20: “’A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.”
   1. How often do you consider the fact that as a servant of Jesus’, you will be persecuted? Discuss.
   2. When Jesus commands his followers to take up their cross and follow him, what does that mean to you practically?
   3. Is anything hindering you from daily surrender to the will of God? Discuss and/or spend time in prayer/confession.

***Connected to His Spirit***

1. It’s easy to feel troubled or anxious when reading this passage. V 26 however reminds us that it is the Helper (Holy Spirit) who enables us to follow in Jesus’ steps.
   1. Share an incident this week or recently in which the Holy Spirit helped you?
   2. To what extent are you daily relying on the Holy Spirit to help you live out the word of God?
   3. Paul highlights the battle between the Spirit and the flesh in Romans 7. In your personal battle, which of the two (the Spirit or the flesh) do you feel is winning?

***Building His Kingdom***

1. When is the last time you “bore witness” (vs. 27) to what Christ has done in your life?
2. Do you give those outside of Christ a “reason to ask you for the hope that you have” (1 Peter 3:15)? Discuss
3. What “weight” do you need to “lay aside” this week in order to “run the race” Christ has set for you (Heb. 12:1-2? Write your commitment below.

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Weekly Scripture Memory

*“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”* John 16:33 (ESV)