

NOT OF THE WORLD
JOHN 17:14-19//TODD DUGARD
APRIL 9, 2023



Jesus prayed that, as a believer, I would know to be...in the world but not of the world... rejecting its lies and embracing his truth....and committing myself to his work in the world because he committed himself to me.

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1)In his message, Todd refers to the “world” as a “human system”. As a group, discuss what you think that means. In what ways do we experience the “world”?

2)In his prayer, Jesus states, “My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.” (v. 15). Why do you think Jesus prayed this? Do you ever feel abandoned in “the world”? Have you experienced the hatred of the world?

3)While we are to be in the world, Jesus also states that we are not of this world. Most of us have heard the phrase before, but what does that look like in your daily life? How can we be both a “citizen of heaven” (Phil. 3:20) and still be in this world?

4)One of the ways we can do this is to reject Satan’s lies and embrace God’s truth. What lies of Satan have been or continue to be hard for you to see through (i.e., lies about your identity, lies about life priorities, lies about the validity of God’s word)?

5)Todd referred to George Orwell’s prediction in “1984” of coming challenges to commonly held, objective truth (i.e. 2+2=5). In recent days, we have seen this kind of challenge in the area of gender and even the challenge that saying 2+2=4 is a racist statement. How should we interact with a world that challenges our common sense, let alone our Christian values? What essential truths should we hold onto no matter what pressure we might be facing

6) In his prayer, Jesus stated that he has sent his followers into the world. As a group of Christians, discuss what type of work should we be committing ourselves to? What obstacles stand in the way of you doing this? How can you challenge and encourage each other in this?

7) If we are to be motivated by Christ's commitment to us, the work of consecration (devoted to) and sanctification (set apart) are an ongoing process in our walk. As you close, reflect and renew your commitment to the plan God has for you.