

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from 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 (ESV)

Loving You

Tell me what you see. I see two choices. **What are your choices?** I can love the world or I can love you. I can't love both the world and you. **Why is that?** If I love the world my desires and values will line up and be consistent with the world. I will have worldly desires. **Like what?** I will desire whatever my flesh craves. I will want whatever my eyes see. I will pursue whatever my prides seeks. All these desires, cravings and pursuits will fill my heart full with values that do not come from you. **No, they do not.** As it is my life is under the constant influence of the world. It is seeking to conform me to all its patterns and practices. It wants to mold me into its shape. The world would be happy if I looked and acted and sounded just like everyone else in it. **Is that what you want?** No, I have no desire to follow the world and all its evil desires, cravings and pursuits. **What is it that you want?**

Instead of loving the world I want to love you. Loving the world will keep me from loving you. **That's right.** But the opposite is even more powerfully true. **It is.** Loving you will keep me from loving the world. As I love you, the world will not be able to conform me to its image or mold me into its shape. It will not be able to conform me to its pattern. **No, it will not.** Your power that is at work in me is far more powerful than the power that is at work in the world. **Yes, it is.** You are molding and shaping my life as I come to know, love and follow you. Your love is changing my heart and transforming my mind. You are making me into the person you want me to be. You are helping me to live the life that you have called me to live. You are helping me to know your will and walk in your ways. **Yes, I am.** Loving you has given me the desire to obey you in all that I think, say and do. **That is very good.**

Heavenly Father, I love you with all my heart and soul and mind and strength. The world and all that it has to offer has lost its appeal to me. It is the desire of my heart to live my life fully for you. I want to know you and do your will. Amen

If *Loves The World*

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

NIV 1 John 2:15-17

If *Love The World*

Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

NLT 1 John 2:15-17

If *Love The World*

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live forever.

NRSV 1 John 2:15-17

If *Loves The World*

Do not love or cherish the world or the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh [craving for sensual gratification] and the lust of the eyes [greedy longings of the mind] and the pride of life [assurance in one's own resources or in the stability of earthly things]—these do not come from the Father but are from the world [itself]. And the world passes away and disappears, and with it the forbidden cravings (the passionate desires, the lust) of it; but he who does the will of God and carries out His purposes in his life abides (remains) forever.

AMP 1 John 2:15-17

If *Loves The World*

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

NASB 1 John 2:15-17

If *Loves The World*

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

ESV 1 John 2:15-17

If *Loves The World*

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

NKJV 1 John 2:15-17

If *Love The World's Ways*

Don't love the world's ways. Don't love the world's goods. Love of the world squeezes out love for the Father. Practically everything that goes on in the world—wanting your own way, wanting everything for yourself, wanting to appear important—has nothing to do with the Father. It just isolates you from him. The world and all its wanting, wanting, wanting is on the way out—but whoever does what God wants is set for eternity.

MSG 1 John 2:15-17

If *Love These Things*

Stop loving this evil world and all that it offers you, for when you love these things you show that you do not really love God; for all these worldly things, these evil desires—the craze for sex, the ambition to buy everything that appeals to you, and the pride that comes from wealth and importance—these are not from God. They are from this evil world itself. And this world is fading away, and these evil, forbidden things will go with it, but whoever keeps doing the will of God will live forever.

TLB 1 John 2:15-17

If *Love The World*

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If you love the world, the love of the Father is not in you. These are the ways of the world: wanting to please our sinful selves, wanting the sinful things we see, and being too proud of what we have. None of these come from the Father, but all of them come from the world. The world and everything that people want in it are passing away, but the person who does what God wants lives forever.

NCV 1 John 2:15-17

Loves The World

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

If – 1 John 2:15-17

In Context: Read 1 John 2

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from 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 (ESV)

Considering The Words: *(What words speak to your heart?)*

Do not | love | the world | or | the things | in | the world. | If anyone | loves | the world, | the love | of the | Father | is not | in him. | For | all that | is in | the world | —the desires | of the flesh | and | the desires | of the eyes | and | pride | of life | —is not | from | the Father | but is | from | 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 (ESV)

Praying The Scripture: *(What prayer from your heart will you write?)*

Heavenly Father, I love you with all my heart and soul and mind and strength. The world and all that it has to offer has lost its appeal to me. It is the desire of my heart to live my life fully for you. I want to know you and do your will. Amen

What It Means: *(What questions speak to your heart?)* (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

When have you had fleshly desires that were not good, acceptable and pleasing to God?

When has what you have allowed your eyes to see caused fleshly desires to rise in you?

When has pride so filled your life that you pursued ungodly plans and goals?

How are you removing worldly and ungodly influences from your life?

How has your love for God kept you from loving the things of this world?

What new desire is God giving to you, as you love, follow and serve Him?

What new plans and goals has God given to you as you love, follow and serve Him?

Living It Out: *(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Allow your wholehearted love for God to keep you from loving the things of the world.

Seeing It Happen: *(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that your love for God will keep you from loving the things of the world.

Get Ready To Share: *(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group how loving God is keeping you from loving the things of the world.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May your wholehearted love for God keep you from loving the things of the world.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Heavenly Father, may my love for you keep me from loving the things of the world.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Heavenly Father, how will my love for you keep me from loving the things of the world today?
