

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. 1 John 2:15-17 (NIV)

I Love You

That is what I most want to say to you. **What do you most want to say to me?** I love you. **How much do you love me?** I love you with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. I love you with all that is within me. Having said that, I still have a powerful and passionate and persistent desire to ask you to fan the flames of my love for you. I want my love for you to completely overpower the love I once had for the things of this world. I want my love for you to guard and guide the entire course of my life. I want all my thoughts and words and actions to be rooted in my love for you. I want the priorities of my life to be formed by my love for you. I want my love for you to make me able to know you intimately. I want my love for you to help me to hear your voice as I walk through life with you. In other words, I don't want to love you a little bit. In other words, I don't to know you somewhat. In other words, I don't want to half-heartedly live my life with and for you. I want to be fully devoted to you today, tomorrow, and forever. My life is at your disposal. I am at your service. I will follow you to where you lead me. I will do whatever you ask of me. This is how much I love you. This is how much more I want to love you. **You have a very good prayer that you have been and will continue to pray, of that, I am sure.**

Let me ask you a question. I'm listening. **Where did this love for me, that is now in you come from?** You loved me. I now love you. Your love for me rescued me from a life without you. Your love for me drew me to yourself. Your love for me, placed within me, a love for you. My love for you came from you as a gift. **That is correct. That is right. That is true. Do you have any doubts about my hearing and answering this prayer of yours? Will I fan the flames of your love for me? Will you come to know and love me more and more as you continue to live your life with and for me? Will your love for me continue to guard and guide the entire course of your life? Will Your love for me make you able to accomplish my purposes and plans for your life?** Yes, I believe that you will fan the flames of my love for you. Yes, I believe that you will help me to come to know and love you more and more as I live my life with and for you. Yes, I believe that my love for you will make me able to accomplish the purposes and plans you have for my life. **That is very good. Keep moving forward with me. Keep on loving and following and serving me.** Yes Lord, I will. **That will be very good.**

Lord, I have had misplaced priorities. I have pursued all that the world had to offer. I have often misspent my life on what will not last. Forgive me. Help my love for you to overpower any old desire to love things of this world. I am fully devoted to loving you. Amen

The Virtuous Life*Do Not Love 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

The Virtuous Life*Do Not Love 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

The Virtuous Life*Do Not Love This 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

The Virtuous Life*Do Not Love 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

The Virtuous Life*Do Not 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

The Virtuous Life*Don't 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

The Virtuous Life*Do Not Love Or Cherish 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

The Virtuous Life*Stop Loving This Evil World*

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

The Virtuous Life*Do Not Love 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

The Virtuous Life*Do Not 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

Do Not Love The World

Year ____ Week ____ Day ____ Date ____

The Virtuous Life – 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?)***

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

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. 1 John 2:15-17 (NIV)

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

Lord, I have had misplaced priorities. I have pursued all that the world had to offer. I have often misspent my life on what will not last. Forgive me. Help my love for you to overpower any old desire to love things of this world. I am fully devoted to loving you. Amen

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

When have you been most tempted to love the world or something in it?

How will loving the world cause you to misspend your life on what will not last?

How can what you love be gauged by how you spend your time, talent, and resources?

When have you come to realize that your priorities were inconsistent with loving God?

How has your love for God grown as you lived your life with and for Him?

How does your love for God now overpower old desires to love the world?

How is your love for God helping you to reprioritize how you spend your life?

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

Let your love for God overpower your old desire to love the things of this world.

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

Have faith that your love for God will overpower your old desires to love the things of this world.

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

Share with another person or your small group how your love for God is overpowering your desires for worldly things.

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 love for God replace the love you once had for the world.

Prayer To Carry

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

Lord, my love for you overpowers every old desire to love the world.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how will my love for you guide my thoughts and words and actions today?
