

(1) Read John 12:25 and Mark 8:34-37. Now, define what Jesus meant when he spoke of “losing” your life and “denying” yourself and “hating” your life. What are some practical ways in which you might consider doing this today?

(2) What does it mean to “love” your life or to “save” it “in this world”? Read Revelation 12:11 and explain how it relates to John 12:25. What does John mean in the Revelation passage when he describes these people as having “loved not their lives even unto death”?

(3) The title to this sermon was, “When Hating is Loving.” Do you understand why I put it that way? Is this contradictory? How is it possible both to “love” ourselves and simultaneously to “hate” ourselves in this world?

(4) Read Philippians 3:7-11 and compare what Paul says to what Jesus says. Are they saying the same thing?

(5) Go back and read John 12:1-8 and explain how Mary’s action relates to what Jesus says in John 12:25. How is it that when Mary took this action she was both “hating” her self in this world but loving herself in preparation for the next?