

(1) Review and reflect on some of the incredible things Jesus has said in the upper room discourse to and about those who follow him. Have you ever found yourself thinking that these truths mean that God will always protect you from pain and heartache, or that because he loves you in this way he will always bless you financially and physically? Talk about this among yourselves. Why is this misguided and unbiblical?

(2) In what ways, if any, have you experienced the hatred of the world? If not outright hatred, in what ways have you felt marginalized and overlooked simply because you are a Christian?

(3) What is the ultimate, underlying reason that the world hates Christians? Jesus appears to say that it is because they hate him and his Father who sent him. Why do people hate Jesus?

(4) What does this passage tell us about the claim today that Muslims and Christians worship the same God? What statements do you find in this passage that would challenge and refute that assumption?

(5) What does Jesus mean when he says that we are “not of the world”? Give some practical examples. How does it strike you when Jesus says that the reason we are not of the world is because he has “chosen” us out of the world? What does this mean?