



Believe

the gospel of John

John 15:18 - 16:4

Use these questions to prepare for Sunday, July 23.

1. Can you think of a time when someone made fun of you? How did you handle it?
2. Why does following Jesus often make “the world hate us?”
3. What comfort can we have when the world hates us?
4. What kind of persecution do followers of Jesus experience?
5. Can you think of a time when you were hassled for being a follower of Jesus? Describe what happened.
6. Why did Jesus’ words and actions make people “guilty of sin?” (verses 22-25)
7. What two names does Jesus give the Holy Spirit in verse 26? How might “The Counselor” and the “Spirit of Truth” help us when we face opposition?
8. Can you think of a time when you were aware of the Holy Spirit working strongly inside of you? What was that like?
9. Why did Jesus tell his followers about the opposition they were going to face?
10. Have you ever been a part of a group doing kingdom work and you faced opposition? What did that look like? Were you aware of this being a spiritual battle?
11. How aware are you of Christian persecution across the world? Where is such opposition common today?
12. How can those of us in the free encourage those who are in harm’s way for following Jesus?

Suggestions if you are doing this with kids:

- We have a new memory verse with the kids: **John 15:5 - “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing”**
- Play a game of “Sixes” to make your time together fun. You’ll need one die and a piece of paper to keep score. Take turns rolling the die. What you roll is how many points you get for answering a question/ (1=1000 points, 2 = 2000, etc.) But, If you roll a 6, you must swap points with another player of your choice.