

THE GOSPEL OF

JOHN

STUDENT LESSON

PERSECUTED BY
THE WORLD,
EMPOWERED BY
THE HOLY SPIRIT

Open it

1. What is one thing that you hate to do? (A chore around the house, going to the dentist, eating your vegetables)

Daily Devotions

Day 1 — Today's Theme: Explore It

Read John 15:18–27.

2. What two reasons does Jesus give that the world hates the disciples (and ultimately any Christian)?
3. What two reasons does Jesus give to show that the world is guilty of sin?
4. For what reason does the world hate Jesus?
5. What is the same responsibility given both to the Holy Spirit and to us as believers?

Day 2 — Today's Theme: Expect Persecution

Read John 15:18–21.

In my last church where I served as a student ministry pastor, I used to visit the high school lunches once a week. I would get to know students and some of them would figure out that I am a student ministry pastor who worked at the local church. I rented an apartment in a house on a main road that everyone from that community drives past, and students from that school discovered where I lived. I remember having the windows open on hot summer days, and I would frequently see this Ford Bronco drive by with its horn honking followed by colorful language from some high school boys cursing me and Jesus because they knew that I was a student ministry pastor. They “hated me” because I am a follower of Jesus! We are to stand out from the crowd around us by the way we live for Christ and the words we say that point people to Jesus! When we live and speak for Jesus, we will be hated and even experience persecution because of the name of Jesus!

6. Have you ever been persecuted because you are a Christian? Share your experience!

7. How are we to respond when others persecute us because of Christ?

8. If you aren't hated by others or being persecuted because of Christ, does that mean that you are not a Christian since Jesus clearly says if they persecuted and hated Christ, they will persecute and hate us also?

Day 3 — Today's Theme: No Excuses!

Read John 15:22–25.

Have you ever shown up to class and received a zero on an assignment that you were supposed to turn in because you weren't even aware that you were given the assignment? Maybe you are one of those students who has a legitimate excuse and plead your case to the teacher after class sharing that you weren't aware of the teacher's expectations. Jesus said that the world has no excuse! The world is guilty of sin. Jesus has clearly shown through His words and actions that He is the Messiah, God in the flesh, but the world refuses to believe in Him. Their sin is hating Jesus and the Father instead of trusting in Jesus and loving Him!

9. What words did Jesus say to them that caused them to be found guilty of sin?

10. What are the works that Jesus did among them that caused them to be found guilty of sin?

11. What are the best excuses you have given your parents for not doing chores around the house, or what excuses have you given your teachers for not turning in your homework?

12. What excuses have you given for not obeying God?

13. How does hating Jesus also mean that they hate God the Father?

Day 4 — Today's Theme: Do They Know the Truth about Jesus?

Read John 15:26–27.

Do you remember when you were in elementary school, and you would “pinky swear” to show that you were telling the truth about something? Or if someone testifies in court, they place their hand on the Bible, and the “promise to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth!” Jesus comes to the scene on earth, and He proves that He is the Messiah through His words and actions. Jesus is soon going to the cross and then He will be resurrected and leave this world. The Father will then send the Holy Spirit, who will testify about Jesus to a lost world. Jesus also gives the assignment to the disciples and us to testify about Jesus. The disciples have been with Jesus from the beginning of His public ministry, and they are testifying from that time all the way through Jesus’ death, burial, resurrection, and ascension into heaven, as well as how Jesus has changed their lives. We also can testify to the moment we placed our trust in Jesus and how He has changed our lives and how we have been abiding in Jesus since that moment of placing our trust in Him!

14. How has Jesus changed your life since you placed your trust in Him?

15. How does the Holy Spirit testify about Jesus?

**16. Who is someone you have testified to about Jesus? What prevents you from sharing Jesus with others?
Who is someone that the Lord wants you to share Jesus with this week?**