

A Worthy Cause

May 26, 2019

Text: John 15:18-16:4a

Getting Our Bearings

- We are living in a _____ and we need to come to terms with it.

- Three simple _____.
 - Christianity is not normally the _____ cultural influence.

 - We now live in a _____ environment.

 - This is the _____ environment for a _____ church.

Jesus' Advance Notice

- Jesus teaches us to assume that the world _____.

- The world hates us because it hated Him.

- The world's hatred is no reason for _____ (Acts 4).

Life Enrichment

What about today's sermon challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- Have you ever been disoriented or lost when traveling? How did you get back on track?
- How is the present cultural situation different from thirty years ago for Christians?
- What have Christians lost over that period? What have they gained?
- Do you feel the comfort and protection the American church enjoys has been beneficial or not? Why, or why not?
- Which of the "three simple reference points" from today's sermon is most difficult for you? Why?
- How do the reference points help us come to terms with what is happening in our society?
- Why do you think some Christians are having such a challenging time with the rising tide of opposition to Christianity?
- How do Jesus' words from John 15:18-16:4a help believers gain perspective?
- What should the rising opposition inspire within Christians? How is the rising opposition impacting your faith?