

SERIES TITLE: DEEPER

PART 5: DEEP DESIRE

TEXT: 1 JOHN 2:15-17

INTRODUCTION.

The series' theme comes from 1 John 2:24, "If what you heard from the beginning lives deeply in you, you will live deeply in both Son and Father." [The Message] We all want to be deep. We want something lasting, substantive, and profound. This study of 1 John calls us to deeply root ourselves in Jesus, in order to thrive in a fallen world.

DISCUSSION.

If you were to ask your neighbors to define "worldliness," what do you think they would say? Would it be positive or negative?

EXAMINATION.

- V.15 When John says not to love the world, what world is he talking about? (considering what he says in 2:2 and 4:14)

- V.16 This is John's 3-fold description of worldliness. How would you define each one?
 - "the desires of the flesh"
 - "the desires of the eyes"
 - "the pride of life"

- V.17 What is the reason given here for not loving the world, but desiring God?

APPLICATION.

- Can we make a list of "worldly" behaviors that will make it possible for Christians to avoid worldliness? Why or why not?

- Why is withdrawing from society not an effective way of escaping worldliness? How does that kind of approach disregard God's purpose for his people?

- Which of the three descriptions in v.16 do you find the most challenging?

- What is the danger of desiring the world more than desiring God?

- How can you deepen your desire for God?

- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?