



## The Passionate Life 1 Peter 2:11-12

### Two Realities in the World and Two Urgings from this passage:

- **Reality #1:** We live in a world that wars against your soul.
  - **Urging #1:** Resist the world.
- **Reality #2:** We live in a world that wants to belittle God.
  - **Urging #2:** Engage the world.

### Sermon Discussion Questions – October 18, 2020

1. Thinking back on the previous week, how was your pursuit of God's Word and His people impacted as a result of last week's discussion and your personal application?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:11 and 1 Peter 5:8. In what ways, large or small, do you experience the war that is being waged against your soul by your own flesh, the world, and the ways of the world? Is there a specific "lure of the world" (e.g., pride, fame, money, possessions, sex, success) that is most difficult for you to resist? How do you most often engage in this war against your soul and respond to its battle rhythm?
3. Think of a brother or sister in Christ whose life exemplifies a walk with God that consistently reflects a countercultural and transformational faith. In what ways does their life demonstrate the admonition of Romans 12:1-2? What, in your estimation, enables that person to consistently resist the invitations and persuasions of the world?
4. Recognizing that we're not striving for the recognition or praise of man, what area(s) of your life might outsiders look at right now and feel compelled to say, "Wow, [insert your name] is making much of God in how they [fill in the blank]"? In what areas of your life would you **want** others to be able to make that statement about you, where they currently might not?
5. Think of a Christian conviction that you hold that is often challenged by the world. How do you normally respond to those challenges? What are the roots of your response? In what ways would you like to strengthen your response of faith in these scenarios? How might your group support you in that effort?
6. Our words and lives as believers are to be witnesses to Christ and His glorious gospel (John 15:26; cf. Acts 1:8, James 3:17). Are there any people who come to mind who shout the gospel loudly through their counter-cultural living? What about their life would you like to model within yours (1 Corinthians 11:1)?
7. Consider the tension that exists between the call to engage the world for the sake of God's glory, and the simultaneous call to resist the world's allure. What challenges exist in this tension? Read 1 Corinthians 4:2, 2 Timothy 1:13-14 and 4:2, Titus 1:9 and 2:1,10, Proverbs 4:23-27, and 1 Timothy 6:3-14. While engaging the world with the

gospel, what provisions from God enables us navigate these challenges, guarding the gospel that has been entrusted to us while simultaneously guarding our hearts?

8. Using a scale of 1-10 (1 = Not at all, 10 = Extremely well), rate yourself on how well each area of your life in the list below reflects a passion for God and the spread of His glory in the world. What specific steps would you like to take this week to grow in the areas you scored the lowest? (*NOTE TO LEADERS: Consider breaking your group into gender-specific pods to give people more time to share about each of these areas.*)
  - a. The way I spend time.
  - b. The way I steward finances and resources.
  - c. The way that I speak/post to and about others.
  - d. The way that I approach work.
  - e. The way that I relate to my spouse/parents/family members.
  - f. The way that I relate to co-workers/friends/neighbors.
  
9. What were you most convicted about from this week's message and how do you aim to respond to that conviction?