



Living in the *Real World*  
John 15:18 - 16:16  
Series: The Gospel of John (#29)  
Pastor Lyle L. Wahl  
October 15, 2023

Theme: **God prepares His people to withstand persecution.**

### **Persecution is certain.**

1. The reasons.

(15:18-25; see also Matthew 5:10-12; Romans 1:18-32, 3:9-23, 8:7; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-4; 2 Timothy 2:3, 9, 3:12; 1 Peter 1:6-9, 4:12)

2. Some examples. (15:18-20; 16:2)

### **Victory is certain.**

1. The preparation for victory. (15:19-20; 16:1, 4)

2. The power for victory. (15:26-27)

3. The promise of victory. (16:1)

## In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

**Monday.** We don't like it — no one does — but spiritual conflict, hatred and persecution are real and certain for believers living their faith. Read this section (15:18-16:6), review the outline and any notes you made yesterday, and answer the following:

- What does Jesus mean by “the world”?
- Who does *the world* hate and persecute, and why?
- What examples of persecution did Jesus give?

**Tuesday.** The good news in all this about hatred and persecution (and we need it!) begins here — victory is certain. Checking the outline and verses listed there, list and describe what you need to do to be prepared for persecution. Are you prepared and preparing on an ongoing basis? If not, you are not “*Living in the Real World.*”

**Wednesday.** More good news. God gives you the power for victory. 15:26-27 may be familiar verses to you on their own, but think through them today in terms of their context or setting. Write out a description of what this means to you. Then write out a prayer thanking God for this ministry of the Holy Spirit.

**Thursday.** The good news continues — God not only makes the power for victory available through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, He promises *you* victory, so that you will not stumble. Read 16:1 and personalize that verse, because the promise *does* apply to you (remember the renderings of “go astray” or “be offended” do not catch the thought clearly here). Thank God for His promise of victory to you.

**Friday – Saturday.** On Sunday we plan to look at “The Lord Prays” from 17:1-26. Read through this section in preparation for our time together.