



LIFE Groups Sermon-Based Discussion Questions “Seeking Things Above”

Colossians 3:1-4, for the week of Sunday, February 11, 2018

I. Read 1 Jn 2:15-16, Jam 4:14, and Col 3:5-7. Based on these verses, how would you define worldliness? What are its main characteristics? Can you identify specific, concrete, everyday temptations or examples of worldliness in your life? And why is it so dangerous?

Supplemental material to help discussion from the sermon

- *2 Tim 4:10 For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica.*
- *So worldliness, then, is disproportionate desire (too much desire) for the things of this fallen world. The worldly person loves the values and pursuits of this passing world. If you are worldly, your goal is to move forward rather than upward, to live horizontally rather than vertically.*
- *Iain Murray: “Worldliness is departing from God. It’s a man-centered way of thinking. It judges the importance of things by the present and material results. It weighs success by numbers. It covets human esteem and wants popularity. It knows no truth for which it is worth suffering. It declines to be a fool for Christ’s sake. Worldliness is the mindset of the unregenerate. It adopts idols and is at war with God.”*
- *Dietrich Bonhoeffer: “The first call which every Christian experiences is the call to abandon the attachments of this world... Discipleship is not an offer that man makes to Christ.”*

II. In the message, Pastor Jojo spoke about the comparative and integrative tests as a way to discern both our love for God and how we relate to His good gifts. Can you explain each of these tests? What is the aim of each one? Are they in conflict or complementary? And what is the relationship between the two tests?

Supplemental material to help discussion from the sermon

- *When you really love God and when you really treasure Him above all, you can faithfully enjoy all His blessings and gifts to you without being idolatrous and without being indifferent.*

III. Read Col 3:1-4. Paul tells us to seek and set our minds on the things that are above. What does this mean practically for every believer in Jesus? How is it true that the heavenly-minded person is actually very earthly-minded? And how does believing the gospel, from the heart, motivate us to set our minds on things above?

Supplemental material to help discussion from the sermon

- *If you are seeking things above, if you have your mind set on heavenly things, you’ll actually be very earthly-minded. You will care about your witness for Christ, you will think how to love and reach your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. You will aim to live well, speak graciously, be humble, be prayerful, be evangelistic.*