

# Life Group Homework

## JOHN 15:9-25 – God’s Love and the World’s Hatred Collide

### Getting Started:

1. Describe how you feel when you meet with someone and find out that you have many of the same views, you enjoy many of the same things, and you both connect well personally.
  
2. Does that feeling happen more frequently with non-Christians, with nominal Christians, or with mature Christians?
  
3. Does that feeling happen with only those who are the same culture as you?

### Digging In:

1. Jesus says in *John 15:11* “*that my joy may be in you*”. Is Jesus saying that He wants the joy in His heart to also be in the heart of His disciples. Or is Jesus saying that He wants His disciples to be a reason His heart is filled with joy?
  
2. When Jesus says that no man has a greater love than to lay down his life for his friends, is He only referencing His crucifixion or is Jesus also letting us know that He would like us to follow in His footsteps? (See *Matthew 16:24-25* and *2 Corinthians 12:15* for further discussion.)

3. What runs through your mind when you hear that our selfless love for one another is a source of joy for Jesus?

4. How might our friendship with Jesus (vs. 15) change how we see our acts of obedience? (Think about how young people seem to 'obey' their friend's wishes.)

5. How do you feel when you think of the truth that Jesus chose you (vs. 16) to be His friend and to go and bear fruit with the blessing of the Father?

6. In light of the above, how important should the world's opinion be to us (vs. 18)?

7. How does it help to know that the world's hatred toward us is and was directed at the Father and Son as well? (vs. 18-23)

### **Living It Out:**

1. Discuss how we might still be seeking friendship with the world and desiring the world's approval rather than finding joy in God's approval.

2. Discuss how knowing that God finds joy in our faithfulness can help us endure hardship in this life.