

Introduction:

Text: 1 John 2:15-17

A. What does it mean to love the world or anything in the world?

- 1) To prioritize and pursue worldly pleasures, possessions, and ambitions, instead of pursuing and fulfilling God's will.

B. What are the worldly desires that hinder people from knowing God and fulfilling His will (1 John 2:15-17)?

- 1) P leasures = Desires of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21)
- 2) P ossessions = Desires of the eyes (Luke 12:15)
- 3) P ride = Dependence on self, rather than depending on God (Romans 1:18-25)

C. Main reasons why it is more beneficial to pursue and fulfill God's will (1 John 5:17).

- 1) The world and its desires will pass away.
- 2) The person who does the will of God will live forever.

D. Life Application: Biblical principles to help us grow in fulfilling God's will and winning the battle from without

- 1) P erpective : Renew your mind with God's word (Romans 12:2)
- 2) P ayer and P raise : Daily devotion with God (1 Thess. 5:16-18)
- 3) P assion and P osition : Delight yourself in the Lord and submit to Him (Psalms 37:4, James 4:7)
- 4) P ower : Depend on the Holy Spirit and His grace to overcome the world and its desires (Acts 1:8, Titus 2:11-13, John 16:33)

Conclusion:

1) What does it mean to be a winner or successful in our culture today?

2) What does it mean to be a winner or successful in God's sight?

3) Read James 4:1-10 and answer the following questions:

- a. In verse 4, James mentioned "Friendship with the world". In your own opinion, what do you think he meant by it?
- b. Why is it so difficult for people to fully submit their lives to God and His will? What do you think are the main reasons?

4) Read Psalms 37:1-9 and share to the group some of the godly advice or wisdom that the Psalmist mentioned that can help win the battle from without.

5) Please review the life application answers on the sermon outline letter D and suggest some practical ways that you can do as a life group, to help each other grow in obedience to God and win the battle from without.

PRAY!