IN THE WORLD, NOT OF IT

3 Letters From John – June 8, 2025

KEY SCRIPTURES

1 John 2:15–17; Genesis 3:6; Matthew 4:1–10; John 17:14–18; 2 Corinthians 5:17–20

KEY POINTS

- Loving the world is incompatible with loving the Father.
- Worldly desires are temporary, but God's will is eternal.
- The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life are spiritual traps designed to pull us away from God.
- Jesus was tempted in all the same ways as us, but He overcame so we could walk in freedom.
- We are not called to separate from the world's people, but we must resist its influence.
- The Father gives us the Holy Spirit. The world itself is an adversarial Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit helps us discern what is of God and empowers us to be ambassadors of reconciliation.
- Our identity in Christ allows us to carry His light into dark places without fading to gray.
- To walk in the light is to engage the world without becoming part of it.

DISCUSSION

- What does it mean to love the world? How does that differ from loving those in the world?
- Why is it significant that Jesus faced the same three temptations as Eve and overcame them?
- Have you ever caught yourself "fading to gray"? What triggered that, and how did God lead you back to the light?
- Which of the three temptations (flesh, eyes, pride) do you personally wrestle with most?
- How do you personally navigate being in the world but not of it?
- Who has helped you stay grounded in truth when you were tempted to blend in with the world?

APPLICATION

- **Ask for Discernment:** Invite the Holy Spirit to expose any area of compromise with the world's values.
- **Resist Temptation:** Choose to walk in the Spirit instead of giving in to the flesh, especially in daily decisions.
- **Shine Intentionally:** Identify one way you can be light in a dark environment this week—at work, school, or in a relationship.
- **Stay Anchored:** Commit to regular time in Scripture so you're rooted in what is true, not just what is trendy.
- **Live as an Ambassador:** Look for a chance this week to extend grace or truth to someone living in darkness.