

Bible Study 5 – Persecution is normal – John 15:18-25

The Eritrean government outlawed worship outside of Islam and the Orthodox, Evangelical Lutheran and Roman Catholic churches in 2002, driving all other Christian churches underground as they faced varying degrees of restrictions and attacks. Since then, thousands of Christians have been arrested and imprisoned without benefitting from a legal process.

The context	Jesus preached publicly for about three years. He was generally popular in the first two years (Jn. 1-5). But the religious leaders opposed Him, particularly in the third year (Jn. 6-21). His last week is described in some detail (Jn. 12-21). Our study is a part of a passage spoken to the disciples when Jesus was walking to the Garden of Gethsemane a few hours before He was betrayed. It follows the command to love one another & is followed by a promise to send the Holy Spirit.
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PART 1 Read and summarise each section – John 15:18-25

The world's hatred (v.18-19)	
Christ's teaching rejected (v.20-22)	
Christ's miracles rejected (v.23-25)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What I learnt about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit.

2. What I learnt about people like us.

3. Summarise a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what are the most important biblical principles being taught?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. How does “the world” (the human system that opposes God’s purpose) persecute Christians today?

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit because He knew that His followers would be rejected and persecuted.



Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a *COMMANDMENT* or *MODEL* for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?

