



PART 8: IN THE WORLD, BUT NOT OF IT

INTRODUCTION

As we start a brand new year it's exciting, but there's also something that feels unsettling. There's a tension going on inside of us that's emotionally and spiritually exhausting. Every day can feel like a battle to stay faithful to God, because we *are* in a battle. There is a war going on...it's a war on lies. It's not so much that we *tell* lies, but that we *live* them. But God gives us a strategy to recognize and resist the enemy and experience victory every day!

KEY SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:1-2

Matthew 16:15-18

1 Kings 19:18

Matthew 5:14-16

Romans 11:5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Describe a time when you had the realization that you can't keep living life the way you've been living life—that things aren't going as well as what you thought they would.
2. Read Romans 12:1-2. How does our culture (the world) influence (conform) us? In what ways have you been assimilated into the culture? In what areas do you feel the greatest internal conflict about following the world?
3. Who are the voices that you regularly listen to? What voices have the greatest influence in your life and the way you view the world? Are there voices you should consider muting?
4. Pastor Will taught that the most effective way we can resist the enemy of the world is by committing to spiritual habits and practices that Jesus taught and modeled. What spiritual practices do you regularly and intentionally pursue?
5. Read Matthew 5:14-16. In what ways is your life a light in the darkness of the world around you? In what ways could you be a brighter light?
6. Read Matthew 16:15-18. Pastor Will taught that "church" means "called out ones." How has God uniquely "called" you out? What has he called you to do (or be) in your family, workplace, neighborhood, circle of friends, and church? How are you pursuing that calling right now?

MOVING FORWARD

Application Prayer: Father, I surrender to join your remnant, the church. Use me to help as many people as possible discover you.