

SERMON NOTES

“In but not of the world” | Pastor Matthew Ruttan **November 8, 2020 – Westminster Church, Barrie – Live Stream**

This sermon is Part 7 of a teaching series on the book of James called “Down-To-Earth.” Today we explore James 4. Make sure to have your Bible with you. Don’t be afraid to take notes of insights you have about the text.

When someone uses the expression “What world are you living in?”, what are they really saying?

In John 17:15 Jesus prayed: “My prayer is not that you take them _____ of the world but that you protect them from _____.”

Verse 4 says: “You adulterous people, don’t you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.” Using your own words, what does this mean?

Verses 7 and 8 say: “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the _____, and he will flee from you. Come near to _____ and he will come near to you.”

Pastor Ruttan highlighted three influential modes of thought in our world: Relativity and individualism, the bigger-is-better mentality, and progressivism. Which do you think is most prevalent?

As we seek to be “in but not of” the world, we shouldn’t be naïve about the influence our society has on us. Friending the world is _____ God.

To be in but not of the world we need to resist Satan. Christ is Satan’s _____.

Verse 8 says: “Come near to God and he will come near to you.” List a few ways you can “come near” to God:

This week you are invited to be an active observer about how “the world” operates and what it values. You are also encouraged to, in prayer, re-commit yourself to living for God, and to be in but not of the world. Will you do these two things?