

This week Dr. Baucom begins a new sermon series, ***In and Out***, focusing on the issues of living “*in the world but not of the world*.” This week’s sermon, “*In It, Not of It*,” based on John 17: 11-19, will set the basic theological context of this series.

1. Have you ever traveled to a different country or a different culture where you found yourself as an alien, a stranger in a strange environment? Not knowing the customs and tradition?
 - Did you find the new culture/community open and welcoming to you?
 - How did you learn to relate while you were there?
 - What kind of changes, acclimations, did you have to make?
 - How did you feel?
 - Have you thought about a new neighbor from another country moving in and how they feel?
 - Have you ever tried to acclimate someone new into your community? How did it go? Were they receptive?
2. **Read and reflect on John 17.** Sit with this passage for a few minutes. Reflect on this pastoral prayer of Jesus.
 - What do you understand Jesus to be saying about the relationship He has with the world?
 - What do you understand is the relationship Jesus’ disciples have to the world?
 - Have you ever spent much time reflecting on what it means to live *in the world but not be of this world*? If so, where have your thoughts brought you?
3. **Re-Read and reflect on John 17:13-21.** Spend several minutes re-reading this passage aloud twice. Rest here for a moment.
 - Did a word or phrase speak to you? What was it?
 - Reflect on that word or phrase, say it in your mind several times, and now say it aloud at least twice. What is God saying to you?
 - Listen.
4. In **John 15:18-19**, what is the description of the relationship believers share with the world?
5. **1 Corinthians 2:12** helps us understand the spirit that lives in us. Where does this spirit come from?
6. **Read and reflect on Ephesians 2:2-10.**
 - What does this passage say about how we formerly walked?
 - How have we been saved from worldly living?
 - What does verse 10 say about why we are created as God’s workmanship?
 - What does this mean to you?
7. **Read Colossians 2:20- 3:17.**
 - List some of the characteristics mentioned that will be a part of our life when we live in the world:
 - Now, what are some of the characteristics that will be a part of our life when we seek to live in Christ:
8. **Romans 12:2** challenges us not to be conformed by this world, but to become transformational.
 - What does that mean to you?
 - If you can, share with your IG members your struggle to live ***in the world but not of the world*** so they might pray with you and help you in accountability.