

# THE SHORELINE CHURCH

1 John 2:15-17

Break Free From the Love of the World | January 12<sup>th</sup> -January 18<sup>th</sup>

**Warm-up:** What is your favorite book in the bible and why?

- Read **1 John 2:15-17** aloud together. This passage contrasts a love of the world with a love for God.
  - What does the “world” represent in the context of this passage?
  - How does this love of the world relate to our hobbies and our passions for them?
  
- This passage mentions three categories describing a “love of this world.” They are the craving for physical pleasure, the craving for everything we see, and the pride we have in our own achievements and possessions.
  - Which of these do you think is the most subtle? How is this dangerous?
  - In what ways do God’s commandments regarding these things go against the status quo in our society?
  
- **James 4:4** reads, “You adulterers! Don’t you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.”
  - What does it mean to be an enemy of God? Do you think you could ever be described as such given the explanation in the passage?
  - Read **James 4:6-10**. Here we see a forgiving God in spite of man’s hostility. How does this passage instruct us in severing our ties to the world?
  
- George explained that, “If we want a desire or craving to grow, then we must feed it. However, if we want a desire or craving to die we must starve it.”
  - Have you seen this principle at work in our own life? How so?
  - What is a godly desire in 2014 you seek to grow in? What are the barriers you foresee and how do you plan to succeed?

**Wrap-up:** Consider any habits that are causing you to pursue worldly desires. In what ways can you replace these to cultivate a love for God? Commit to praying for discernment and direction as you close and continue through your week.