Hater, Lovers, and Users (John 11:45-12:11)

In the final few weeks of Jesus's life, there are three groups of people John talks about; people that Hate Jesus, people that Love Jesus, and People who are just using Jesus. Making us ask ourselves, which are we? and if we are not lovers, how do we become lovers of Jesus.

Haters + Resist the <u>TRUTH</u> when it does not serve them. v46, 47-48. Pro 14:12

Haters + <u>FEAR PEOPLE</u> more than they <u>FEAR GOD</u>. v48. Pro 29:25, Pro 9:10.

Haters + Caiaphas is a great example of both of these along with a desire to put Jesus to death. v49-53; Rom.8:7-8

Lovers + WORSHIP without reservation. Ch12 v1-5, Rm 12:1-2.

Lovers + WORSHIP in a way that is a blessing to others. Ch12 v1-5.

Lovers + WORSHIP first and SERVE second. Ch12 v5-8.

Users + GIVE to GET. v4-6; Matt.5:14-16.

Users + treat Jesus as A MEANS TO AN END. v7-8.

Users + just come to <u>SEE THE SHOW</u>. v9-11.

How do we move from being Haters and Users, to Lovers of Jesus?

- Focus on God's <u>PRESENCE</u>, not God's <u>PRESENTS</u>. Ps.23:1-3; Matt.11:28-30
- Remember the <u>TRUTH</u> about what Christ has <u>DONE</u>. Ps.43:5
- WORSHIP always, SHARE often.

GROWING NOTES

- 1) What comes to mind when you think of Haters, Lovers, and Users of Jesus? Why is it important to know the difference?
- 2) Read John 11:45-57. What are the characteristics of Haters from this text? How is Caiaphas an example of this?
- 3) Read John 12:1-3. What are the characteristics of Lovers from this text? How are Mary, Martha, and Lazarus examples of this?
- 4) Read John 12:4-8. What are the characteristics of Users from this text? How is Judas an example of this?
- 5) How can you go from being a Hater or User, to becoming a Lover of Jesus? Pray.