

ARE YOU A WORLD CHRISTIAN
OR A WORLDLY CHRISTIAN?

Dear Friends:

What is a Christian? If you were to stop a person on the street and ask that question you would get all kinds of different answers. By the year 90 AD, when Christianity was about 60 years old people were already asking the question: "What is a Christian?" Thousands of people had become Christians by then and Christianity had spread far into Europe. However, 60 years is plenty of time for the true meaning of "Christian" to be misrepresented. So... the Apostle John writes the book of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John to accomplish several things, among them to clearly define what a Christian is and how Christians are to reflect the truth and the love of God.

What is a Christian? I think he gives a very clear answer in I John 2:15-17. A Christian is a follower of Christ who does not love the world or the things of the world and follows the will of God. John admonishes those who want to be a Christian NOT to love the world or the possessions of the world. Loving the world and the possessions of the world defines a worldly Christian. What is the difference between a worldly Christian and a World Christian?

A worldly Christian is a person who wants a relationship with God but also wants a relationship with the world. By "world" I mean a spiritual system rooted in Satan that distracts us from God. A worldly Christian often (but not always) puts more value on things of this world than on God. A worldly Christian waits until they are backed into a corner then calls on God. To a worldly Christian going to church is optional, it depends on one's hobby schedule, kids sports schedule, or any other number of enticements.

What is a "World Christian"? Simply put: A Christian who does not allow things of the world to become more important than God. A World Christian is God-centered and not self-centered. A World Christian is others-centered and not self-centered. A World Christian cares about others becoming a Christian, from their family to people in every country in the world. A World Christian cares about the whole world (people) and does not value the things of the world more than God or people! I hope and pray you will be a World Christian and not a worldly Christian!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Rev. Al Carter (cancer), Unity in our nation, Trish Dolejs

Events: Prayer for Pre-School after church Sunday (likely to last around 15 minutes)