

# Being Christian in a Hostile World Sermon Series

## Week One (9/11/21): Being Christian

### **Scripture Text:** 2 Peter 1:1-4

What does it mean to be a Christian in today's world? Sometimes opposition from the culture around us can be overwhelming. In such an adverse world, we need to be reminded of what it means to be a Christian and ask ourselves: Are we being formed into the likeness of Jesus Christ or influenced by a hostile world?

### **Sermon Points:**

1. The Gift: Equal shares in the blessings of Jesus
2. The Power: Everything we need to become like Jesus
3. The Participation: Eternal promises that motivate us to become like Jesus

### **Discussion Question Options:**

- Our series is called "Being Christian in a Hostile World." Where do you feel the hostility in the world most acutely? Does the world's hostility clash with your experience of being a Christian?
- Tim approached various takes on what it means to "be Christian," including praying, following rules, believing the right things, etc. What has "being Christian" meant historically to you, and how has that evolved into today for you, even in this week's message?
- When Peter says God's power has given us everything we need for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3), do you feel confident that God has given you everything you need? How or how not?
- Peter says that in being like Jesus, we escape the corruptive agents of the world. This can be caused by evil around us, but also seemingly harmless distractions. In what ways do you experience the corruptive agents of the world bombarding you? Pray for each other to be motivated to pursue Jesus.