

**Title: No Worries - John 15 18-27**

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**Read: John 15 18-27**

<sup>18-19</sup>"If you find the godless world is hating you, remember it got its start hating me. If you lived on the world's terms, the world would love you as one of its own. But since I picked you to live on God's terms and no longer on the world's terms, the world is going to hate you. <sup>20</sup>"When that happens, remember this: Servants don't get better treatment than their masters. If they beat on me, they will certainly beat on you. If they did what I told them, they will do what you tell them. <sup>21-25</sup>"They are going to do all these things to you because of the way they treated me, because they don't know the One who sent me. If I hadn't come and told them all this in plain language, it wouldn't be so bad. As it is, they have no excuse. Hate me, hate my Father—it's all the same. If I hadn't done what I have done among them, works no one has ever done, they wouldn't be to blame. But they saw the God-signs and hated anyway, both me and my Father. Interesting—they have verified the truth of their own Scriptures where it is written, 'They hated me for no good reason.' <sup>26-27</sup>"When the Friend I plan to send you from the Father comes—the Spirit of Truth issuing from the Father—he will confirm everything about me. You, too, from your side must give your confirming evidence, since you are in this with me from the start."

**Think:**

Do you have people take the mickey out of you? Do people wind you up because you say you are a Christian? Maybe worse still you get bullied because you are a Christian? Hey good news, Jesus says don't be surprised, they hate him too. "Oh that's OK then, phew I thought I was the only one, why didn't you say so before, no worries." But that's no help really, is it? Just because we know people ridiculed and beat Jesus, it doesn't make it any easier when they ridicule and hit us. And if these things don't happen to us, we hear stories that they happen to other people, and then start panicking that it may happen to us. So what is the answer? Well I'm not sure I have one. I could say love Jesus and you will never have another problem again. But Jesus didn't say that. He did say what these people are doing is because of him and not because of you. He did promise that you will party with him in Heaven if you accept him as your saviour. He did say that you will have the Holy Spirit with you, and Jesus did say that God would listen to your prayers. So I guess we have only one example to follow, and when we are afraid or worried about these things we should pray to God, and ask not only for his help but for his peace.

**Pray:**

Lord please do make me feel your calmness in my heart when I worry about these things. Also Father please help those who suffer because they are willing to stand up and say you are Lord. Amen

**Action:**

God does not want you to suffer. If you are bullied, even if it is because you are a Christian, find a leader you trust and talk to them about it. Do it now. Cheerio.