



smoke & mirrors

THIS WEEK 1 JOHN 2:15-29



1 John 2: 15-17— Loving the World
& loving God cannot coexist

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1 John 2:15-17 NIV

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. [16] For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. [17] The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever

A. Lust of the *Flesh*

Biblical meaning: **The urge to satisfy our flesh without self-control or regard for God's design.**

Turning good desires into sinful indulgence.
(Cravings or desires rooted in sinful nature)

B. Lust of the *Eyes*

Biblical meaning: The craving to have what we see, even if it's not ours or not good for us.

Greed, envy, coveting, chasing after material possessions or comparing ourselves to others.

The endless “I need that” to be fulfilled mentality

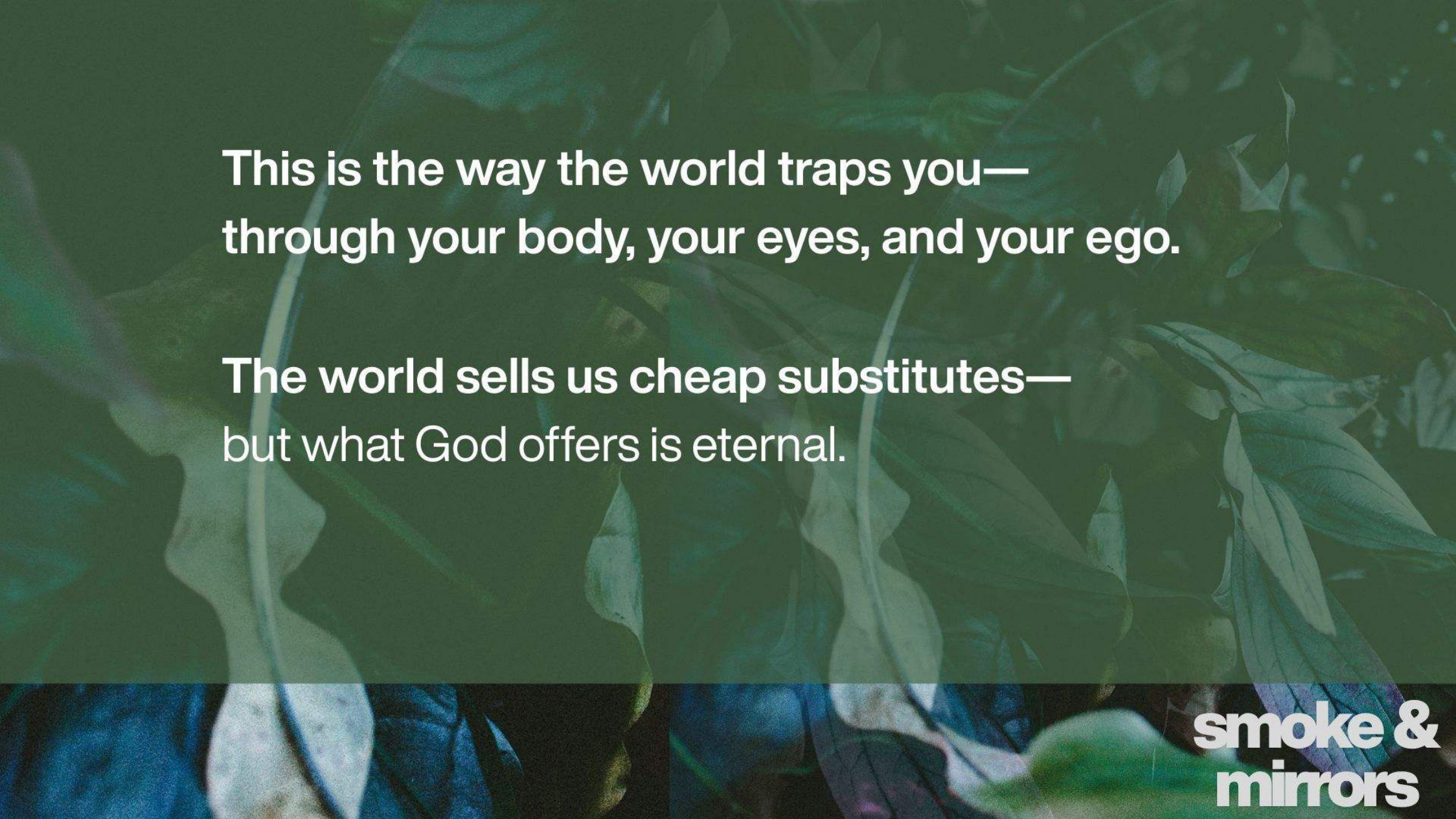
C. Pride of *Life*

Biblical meaning: The desire to make life all about me—status, recognition, and self-sufficiency instead of dependence on God

Making life about self instead of God.

Flex culture—posting for likes, followers, clout.

The constant grind to “prove yourself” instead of resting in who God says you are.



**This is the way the world traps you—
through your body, your eyes, and your ego.**

**The world sells us cheap substitutes—
but what God offers is eternal.**

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**1 John 2: 18-23— Beware of Antichrists
(false teachers & ideology)**

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1 John 2:18-23 CEB

Little children, it is the last hour. Just as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have appeared. This is how we know it is the last hour. [19] They went out from us, but they were not really part of us. If they had been part of us, they would have stayed with us. But by going out from us, they showed they all are not part of us. [20] But you have an anointing from the holy one, and all of you know the truth.

1 John 2:18-23 CEB

[21] I don't write to you because you don't know the truth but because you know it. You know that no lie comes from the truth. [22] Who is the liar? Isn't it the person who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This person is the antichrist: the one who denies the Father and the Son. [23] Everyone who denies the Son does not have the Father, but the one who confesses the Son has the Father also.



1 John 2: 24-29— **Remain in Christ**

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1 John 2:24-29 NLT

So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. [25] And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us. [26] I am writing these things to warn you about those who want to lead you astray. [27] But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don't need anyone to teach you what is true.

1 John 2:24-29 NLT

For the Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true-it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ. [28] And now, dear children, remain in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not be ashamed. [29] Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that all who do what is right are God's children.

**vv. 15–17 → Don't love the passing world,
love God instead.**

**vv. 18–23 → Watch out for false teachers
who deny Jesus.**

**vv. 24–29 → Remain in Christ and live
faithfully until His return.**

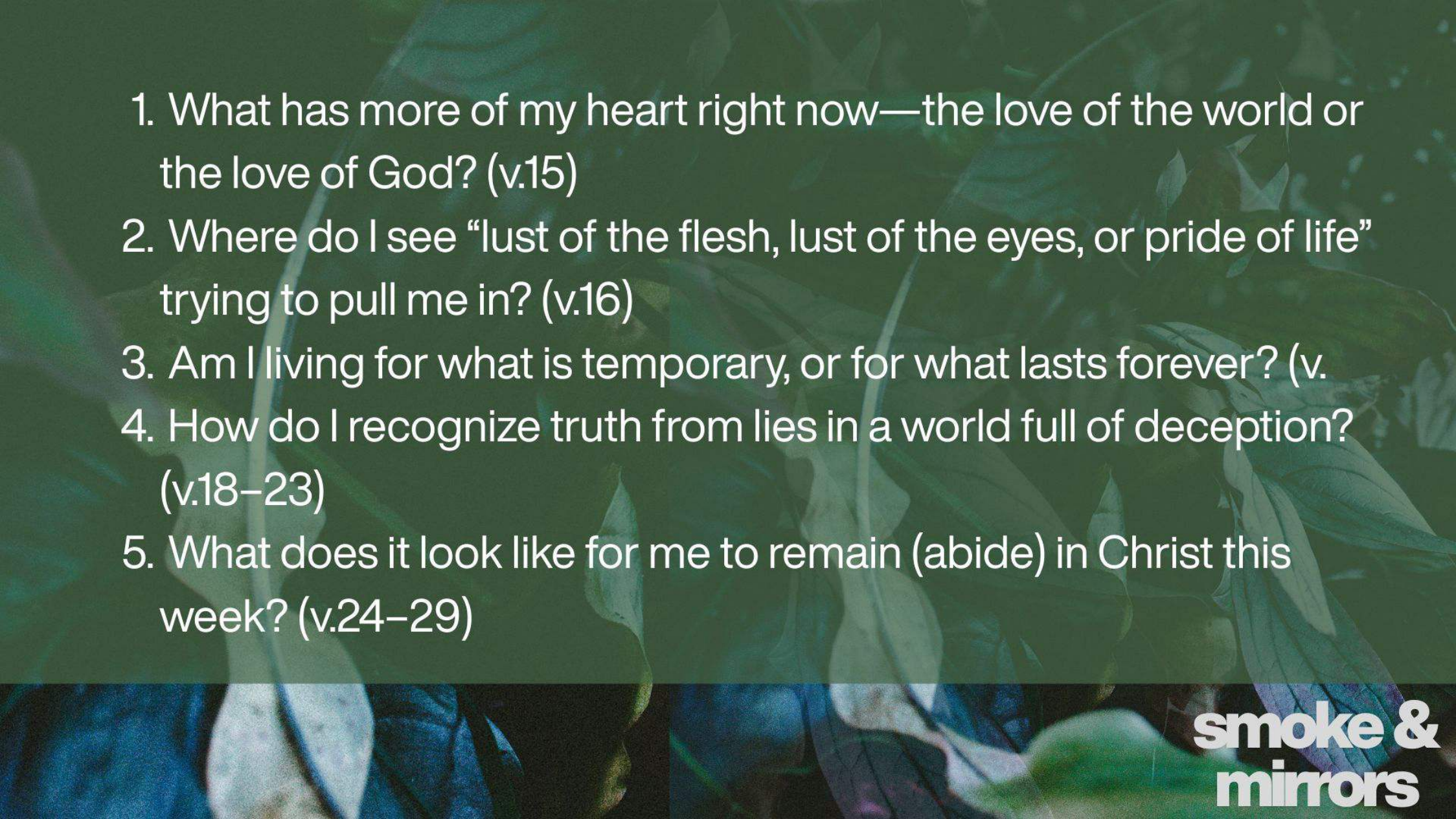
Memory Verse

1 John 2:15-17 NIV

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Reflection questions



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1. What has more of my heart right now—the love of the world or the love of God? (v.15)
 2. Where do I see “lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, or pride of life” trying to pull me in? (v.16)
 3. Am I living for what is temporary, or for what lasts forever? (v.
 4. How do I recognize truth from lies in a world full of deception? (v.18–23)
 5. What does it look like for me to remain (abide) in Christ this week? (v.24–29)