



Series: **This Is US**
Message: **There's a Monster under my Bed**
Text: **2 TI 3:1-5; MT 7:21-23; 1 JN 2:15-17**
Date: **Sunday, May 7, 2017**

Two Very Real Monsters Facing our Families and the Church -

1. CULTURAL CREEP

¹⁵ 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. (1 John 2:15-17)

Love for the world and the things of the world can replace our love for the Father and the things of God.

“What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? ...” (Matthew 16:26)

“They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.” (Romans 1:25)

2. CULTURAL CHRISTIANITY

¹ But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people. (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’ (Matthew 7:21-23)

Thinking back to your childhood, what things do you remember being afraid of?

What do you think would be the greatest fears of adults today?

Can you think of some dangers that adults probably should be concerned over but are not?

Thinking back to this past Sunday... what challenged you, bothered you, encouraged you, or taught you something new?

Based on Sunday's message, how would you define “Cultural Creep”?

Based on Sunday's message, how would you define “Cultural Christianity”?

Read **1 John 2:15-17**.

In verse 16, how does John define for us what he means by “the world”?

What kinds of evidence in the life of a believer show that she or he loves the Father more than the world?

In what ways do believers struggle with this choice? Why is it so hard?

Read **Matthew 16:24-27**.

Although we are saved by grace through faith and not by works, what does Jesus say in verse 24 that it means to be His disciple?

How do you reconcile the cost of following Jesus with the fact that our salvation is by grace?

Why do you think human beings value temporary and tangible things more than eternal things?

Has this ever been a struggle for you? Does it continue to be a struggle?

Read **2 Timothy 3:1-5**.

What does it look like to have a “form of godliness”?

How is this different from true godliness?

Read **Matthew 7:21-23**.

What is the difference between a verbal identification with Jesus and genuinely being a Christian?

What motivation should this give to Christian families?