

3 JOHN

Chapter 1 Bible Study

Day 3 (Week 8)

Greetings

¹ This letter is from John, the elder.

I am writing to Gaius, my dear friend, whom I love in the truth.

² Dear friend, I hope all is well with you and that you are as healthy in body as you are strong in spirit. ³ Some of the traveling teachers recently returned and made me very happy by telling me about your faithfulness and that you are living according to the truth. ⁴ I could have no greater joy than to hear that my children are following the truth.

Caring for the Lord's Workers

⁵ Dear friend, you are being faithful to God when you care for the traveling teachers who pass through, even though they are strangers to you. ⁶ They have told the church here of your loving friendship. Please continue providing for such teachers in a manner that pleases God. ⁷ For they are traveling for the Lord, and they accept nothing from people who are not believers. ⁸ So we ourselves should support them so that we can be their partners as they teach the truth.

⁹ I wrote to the church about this, but Diotrephes, who loves to be the leader, refuses to have anything to do with us. ¹⁰ When I come, I will report some of the things he is doing and the evil accusations he is making against us. Not only does he refuse to welcome the traveling teachers, he also tells others not to help them. And when they do help, he puts them out of the church.

¹¹ Dear friend, don't let this bad example influence you. Follow only what is good. Remember that those who do good prove that they are God's children, and those who do evil prove that they do not know God.

¹² Everyone speaks highly of Demetrius, as does the truth itself. We ourselves can say the same for him, and you know we speak the truth.

Conclusion

¹³ I have much more to say to you, but I don't want to write it with pen and ink. ¹⁴ For I hope to see you soon, and then we will talk face to face.

¹⁵ Peace be with you.

Your friends here send you their greetings. Please give my personal greetings to each of our friends there.

Study Guide Questions

1. Who wrote the book of 3 John (or epistle / Letter), and who did he write it to? (V1) _____
2. What report did the traveling teachers give to John, regarding how the Gaius was doing? (V3,4) _____
3. Who are you being faithful to when you care for traveling teachers that share the Good News of Jesus? (V5) _____
4. As you support a traveling teacher that represents Jesus, what are you becoming with them? (V8) _____
5. Who did John name as being a trouble maker in the Church (V9) _____
6. What were some of the things that John said Diotrephes did to cause trouble? (4 things from V10) _____

7. How do you know who God's children are, and who are not (in other words, they don't know God)? (V11) _____

8. Who did John have good things to say about? (V12) _____

Reflection/Application: What is the one thing that really stood out to you, and how can you apply it to your life? _____

Prayer Guide: Based upon the **third** part of the Lord's Prayer (*Give us today the food we need*), Pray to God and ask Him to provide for your needs in life (Food, clothing, shelter, healthy relationships, etc).

Answer Key

1. The elder John (Apostle) wrote it to his dear friend Gaius.
2. He said he was being faithful and living according to the truth.
3. You are being faithful to God.
4. You become partners with them in their ministry.
5. Diotrephes.
6. He was making evil accusations, refusing to help traveling teachers, telling others not to help them, and putting them out of the Church when people did help them.
7. God's children do good, and those who don't know God do evil.
8. Demetrius.