



3 John

Sunday, May 29, 2016

John writes his third letter to Gaius, an individual we should model who is "walking in the truth," and is hospitable to the Gospel. His warning goes out to Diotrephes, a man intent on making the church an inhospitable place for the Gospel to flourish. Each man is presented for our consideration.

1. Imitate Gaius' Hospitality...

- He Is WALKING in the TRUTH.
- He Is LOVING For the SAKE of the NAME.
- He Is GIVING as a FELLOW WORKER.

2. Diotrophes' Inhospitability

- He Is Self SPEAKING.
- He Is Self PROMOTING.
- He Is Self PRESERVING.

What About You?

- LIVE For the SAKE of the NAME.



2 John

Sunday, May 29, 2016

John writes his second letter to a local church in Ephesus encouraging them to continue walking in truth and love even in opposition to those who deny the truth. He highlights two practical applications to promote hospitality to Gospel truth and inhospitality to lies.

1. Truth & Love Must Go Hand in Hand

- A Gospel Hospitable Church LOVES.
- A Gospel Hospitable Church TRUTHS.

2. Truth & Love Must Oppose Untruth

- We Oppose by HOLDING Truth & Love Together.
- We Oppose by ABIDING in the Teaching of Christ.



2 & 3 John

Sunday, May 29, 2016

Connecting Together

This week as you gather together take some time to ask the question:

“Who was your best friend growing up and why?”

Studying God’s Word Together

1. Read the letters of 2 & 3 John together as a group. As you do, look for the places where John is applying the 3 “tests” from 1 John: the doctrinal test, the love test, and the moral test. Where did you see them applied?
2. We live in an age where “love” and “truth” are increasingly becoming more polarized. Where have you seen this happen in our culture? Where have you seen it in the Church? Where have you seen it in your own life?
3. Read 2 John 3-6 together as a group. How are truth and love intimately related? What happens when you have one without the other in your life and witness? How are love and obedience related in the life of a Christian (vs. 6 & 1 Peter 2:12)?

4. What are some practical ways in our lives that we can increasingly become hospitable to the truth and inhospitable to untruth? Where have you knowingly or unknowingly by your words and actions promoted the truth or untruth?
5. From 3 John, what were the different characteristics of Gaius and Diotrephes? How did the Gospel of Christ (vs. 7 “For the sake of the name”) make it possible for Gaius to serve strangers and the church? How did he serve?
6. What are some practical ways that you can show hospitality for the sake of the Gospel in your home and life? In what practical ways can you be a “fellow worker” by supporting the local work and leaders of Grace Central Coast?

Household/Family Focus: for discussion in your household

What does it mean to be hospitable to the truth and the Gospel? How have you done that as a household? How can your understanding of “the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh” (2 John 7) move you towards greater hospitality and support of the Gospel mission?

Prayer Together

As you pray for one another’s needs, pray also that we would be a people of truth & love, practical hospitality, and loving opposition where necessary.