3John

Reason for the Book of 3John

The book of **3John** is John's letter to a friend commending his good works and warning him about proud men (like Diotrephes).

John's friend, Gaius has found Jesus as the way. In contrast, Diotrephes has found the world as the way.

How 3John Relates to 1John and 2John

In **John 14:6**, Christ told us He is the way, the truth, and the life. When comparing **3John** to **1John** and **2John**, we see that John has portrayed those three aspects of Christ in his letters.

1John	Jesus the Life
2John	Jesus the Truth
3John	Jesus the Way

You will notice some overlap of these aspects of Christ in the three letters. This is not surprising since John is well aware that they are tightly interwoven. It's difficult to consider each entirely by itself.

Outline

- Gaius as a Commendable Christian (**3John 1-8**)
- Diotrephes as a Conceited Christian (**3John 9-10**)
- Demetrius as a Consistent Christian (**3John 11-12**)
- John as a Caring Christian (**3John 13-14**)

Personal Reflection and Application

In **3John**, which of Gaius' behaviors demonstrated that he knew Jesus as the way? In your everyday life, what do your actions say about you? If someone you don't know watched you every minute of a typical day, what would he or she conclude?

Would his or her conclusion be that you are caught up in the cares of the world or would it be clear that you have discovered Jesus as the way?

Small Group Conversation Guide

Read **3John** together.
Make a 2-column list.

Compare the behaviors of Gaius to the behaviors of Diotrephes.

Leadership Principles from 3John

Face-to-Face

Effective leadership is interactive. Consider **2John 12** and **3John 13** where John says he purposely is not including everything in his letter. Instead, he wants to speak face-to-face.

In our technological era, leaders must fight the temptation to rely solely on digital communication. How can you impact someone face to face this week?

Something to Find in 3John

Look for what brought more joy to John than anything else.