



#### The Drone Series

#### A 52-Week Journey Through the Bible

Soaring through the pages of the Bible and embarking on an inspiring weekly journey from <u>Genesis to Revelation!</u> Dive into transformative insights that will uplift your spirit and deepen your understanding. Experience the power of scripture like never before!

We understand that spiritual growth can be a deeply personal journey, and we invite you to join us as we explore a different book of the Bible each week. It's a wonderful opportunity to reflect and find inspiration together. We encourage you to invite a friend to join us, whether in person or online, so we can support each other on this meaningful path.

## Background Matters

The "chosen lady" (NASB, NIV) or spiritual mother could refer to a prophetess/elder (cf. 3 Jn 4; contrast Rev 2:23). <u>But it more likely refers to a local congregation here (see v. 13); both Israel and the church were portrayed as women.</u>

**4–6**. The commandment John mentions here was an old one because it was in the law (Lev 19:18), although Jesus' example gave it new import (Jn 13:34–35). In the context of 1–2 John, "loving one another" means cleaving to the Christian community (rather than leaving it, as the secessionists were doing).<sup>1</sup>

In the letters of 1 and 2 John, "loving one another" specifically means staying committed to and supporting the Christian community. This kind of love shows itself in unity and faithfulness, especially against those—called secessionists—who chose to leave the group. John makes it clear that real love among believers is demonstrated by remaining connected to fellow Christians rather than leaving the faith community.

Evidently John had encountered members of this church (**some of your children**; cf. v. 1) somewhere and was delighted (**it has given me great joy**; cf. 3 John 3–4) to observe their obedience to the truth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Craig S. Keener, <u>The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament</u> (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), 2 Jn 1–6.



He used their fidelity, which he had observed, as a positive starting point. What they were doing (walking in the truth; cf. 3 John 3–4) was precisely what the Father commanded. To walk in the truth is to be obedient to the truth God has made known. John wanted the whole church to do the same.

V. 5. In his final reference to the church under personification (until v. 13), John enjoined it as a dear lady. What he wrote to the church was not some **new** requirement **but one** the church has **had from the beginning** (cf. v. 6). (For the same idea, see 1 John 2:7.) It is nothing other than the command **that we love one another**. As in the larger epistle, the apostle encouraged his readers to follow the old ways as he sought to help them resist the innovations of the antichrists (2 John 7).

V. 6. But what does it mean to "love one another"? The answer: **This is love, that we walk in obedience to His commands**. As he had also done in 1 John 5:2–3a, John defined Christian love in terms of obedience to God. A Christian who truly seeks God's best for his brothers and sisters can only do so by obeying what God has commanded him to do. Love undirected by God's revealed will may easily degenerate into unwise, sentimental activity. Believers who are "walking in the truth" (2 John 4), that is, living in response to what God has revealed, love each other. Brotherly love is part of the truth God has revealed and commanded.<sup>1</sup>

**This Week's Drone Series,** brings us to 2 John chapter 2, where John the Apostle explores Jesus's fuller teaching on love. While the command to love has long existed, Jesus gave it new depth through His actions, as seen in John 13:34–35. He showed how genuine love should look, making it a key part of Christian identity and daily life.

# Walk in Christ's Commandments

2 John 1:1-13

Topics:

Believers, Caring, Children, Deceit, Family, Fellowship, God, Jesus Christ, Love, Obedience, Peace, Rewards, Teaching, Truth, Work

Study Guide 49
This study guide presents daily assignments that are specifically crafted to enhance your growth in the Word. Embrace each moment to meditate and reflect, and watch as your spiritual maturity flourishes through your dedicated efforts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Zane C. Hodges, "2 John," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 906–907.



### Open It, Mondays. Open your heart and mind to the truth of the Word.

1.	Why is it easier to start something than to keep it going?
Ехр	lore It, Tuesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.
2.	To whom was this letter addressed? (1:1)
3.	*Who wrote this letter? Why? (1:1–2)
4.	What unique characteristic do Christians have? (1:2)
5.	What did the elder say would be with him in truth and love? (1:3)
6.	*What gave the elder great joy? (1:4)
7.	*What command did the writer give to his readers? (1:5)
8.	What is love? (1:6)

**Explore It,** Wednesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.



9. `	What did many false teachers of John's day deny? (1:7)
10.	What did the elder encourage his readers to do? (1:8)
11.	What is true about someone who does or does not continue in the teaching of Christ? (1:9)
12.	Who was the reader of this letter not to welcome into his or her house? Why? (1:10–11)
13.	Why did John not want to write all that he had to say? (1:12)
14.	Who shared in John's greeting? (1:13)
15.	*In what way does truth live in us?
et	It Thursdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.
16.	When has it given you joy to see another believer walking in the truth?
17.	How should we show our love for one another?
18.	*What does it mean to continue in the teaching of Christ?



. What does it mean not to welcome a person who does not share in the teaching of Christ?	
. How would welcoming someone without correct teaching about Christ be sharing in his or he wickedness?  . How can we avoid false teachers without being cold or inhospitable?	
	What sort of people should you deny a welcome into your home?
e it Home, Fridays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.	
What specific steps will you take this week to demonstrate your love for other believers?	
*What can you do today to continue in the teaching of Christ?	

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