



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 **Genesis to Revelation!** 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

Third John supplements statements on Christian hospitality in 2 John. It applauds a Christian named Gaius for living out the teachings of the apostles—he had welcomed traveling Christian missionaries into his home—while condemning Diotrephes, a selfish church leader who not only refused to help these itinerant, godly teachers but also had slandered and opposed those who disagreed with him. This book demonstrates that pride can divide Christians if they are not living by God's Word. To avoid the dual dangers of false teaching and division within the church, believers should practice the dual virtues of love and discernment.¹

The spirit of Christian love prevailed in the elder's attitude toward **Gaius**. It is precisely this same spirit which was to dictate Gaius' attitude toward traveling preachers such as Demetrius. Three times more the writer addressed Gaius with this same significant term of address (vv. 2, 5, 11)² After praising the general conduct of Gaius, the writer moved directly to a matter that concerned him. Those who go forth to preach the truth need the support of Christians in the places where they travel. Unlike Diotrephes, Gaius gave this kind of assistance and the apostle

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 3 Jn.

² Zane C. Hodges, "3 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), 912.



wished to assure him that this was the proper course of action. This contrasts, interestingly, with the emphasis in 2 John 10–11 on *not* giving hospitality to false teachers.¹

Not everyone shared this worthy objective, however. John stated, **I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first, will have nothing to do with us.** The simple reference to “the church” suggests strongly that this was the church to which Gaius belonged. It sounds as if Gaius may not have known about John’s letter to the church. It may well be that Diotrephes had suppressed it and kept it from the church’s attention. Diotrephes, John observed, was motivated by a love for preeminence in the church. He was not the last church leader to be so motivated.²

This Week's Drone Series brings us to the book of Third John, where he elaborates on the themes of *Christian hospitality* introduced in Second John. It highlights the commendable character of a Christian named Gaius, who exemplifies the teachings of the apostles through his actions. *Gaius warmly welcomed traveling missionaries into his home, providing them with shelter, support, and encouragement in their ministry.* His generosity and commitment to the faith reflect the spirit of Christian love and community, serving as a powerful example for others to follow. This week, we will learn to recognize those who are self-seeking as well as those who demonstrate a clear Christ-like attitude within the body of Christ.

Modeling a Christ-like Attitude

3 John 1:1–14

Topics:

Ambition, Attitude, Caring, Children, Church, Evil, Faithfulness, God, Gossip, Jesus Christ, Joy, Love, Popularity, Prayer, Reputation, Self-centeredness, Serving, Status, Truth

Study Guide 50 *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.*

¹ Zane C. Hodges, “3 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), 912.

² Zane C. Hodges, “3 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), 913.



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

1. Which famous individuals are currently targets of malicious gossip on social media?

Explore It, Tuesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

2. To whom was this letter addressed? (1:1)

3. For what did “the elder” pray? (1:2)

4. *What gave the writer of 3 John great joy? (1:3–4)

5. In what was the recipient of this letter faithful? (1:5)

6. *What information was circulating among the people in Gaius’s church? (1:6)

7. Why were “the brothers” sent out? (1:7)

8. Why did the elder say that believers ought to show hospitality to Christians who serve God? (1:8)



9. What did Diotrephes love? (1:9)

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

10. What was Diotrephes doing? (1:9–10)

11. *What did the elder encourage Gaius to do? (1:11)

12. What is true about people who do good and people who do evil? (1:11)

13. What was commendable about Demetrius? (1:12)

14. Why is 3 John so short? (1:13–14)

15. What did the writer of 3 John hope to do? (1:14)

16. What does it mean to love someone in the truth?

Get It Thursdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

17. *If fellow believers were to describe you, how would they assess your faithfulness?



18. What about being a believer gives you joy?

19. How can we show hospitality to other Christians?

20. What motivates people to gossip?

21. In what areas of your life do you need to do better at “imitating good” rather than evil?

22. *What can you do to improve your record of faithfulness?

Drive it Home, Fridays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

23. What kind of reputation do you have at your church?

24. *In what area of your life can you be more faithful this week?

25. To whom can you show hospitality this week?

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