

## ***SERIES: LESSONS ON THE LOVE OF CHRIST IN US***

### **Lesson #13:- “Love Motivates Doing Good”**

#### **3 John**

**Announcements and opening prayer. (Stress the need to contact those who have missed more than 2-3 weeks. Let's build our groups this year!)**



**Connect:** an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters. **Icebreaker:** What are some of the things in life that bond people together and make them really like and respect each other?

**Transition:** John has a deep respect, a brotherly love for this man called Gaius. God's love does something unique within us. It creates an incredible bond with people, especially those who we see walking closely with their Lord and serving Him with the whole heart.

**The Bottom Line:** Love compels us to care for God's servants.

### **LESSON PLAN**



**Denotes “Apply”**

**Question:** Have you ever felt like there were Christians you were closer to than your own genetic family? Why?

### **Read 3 John 1-4**

*Notice John uses the same bridge of affection with Gaius that he used in the last letter to the chosen lady, meaning the church he was writing from and her children, the believers in the church. Scholars believe that John was most likely living in Ephesus at this time in his life. He repeats this statement to Gaius that he loves him in the truth. We established that his love was produced by the depth at which they shared their love for God's Truth, the commitment to walking in it faithfully.*

1. What prayer is John lifting up to God for his friend Gaius?

⌚ How can our health affect our ministry?

⌚ If this is the case, should we also not make it a priority of working to stay healthy?

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2. What do we learn about a source of John’s joy?

- ⌚ If someone took a report to John about your commitment to the Truth and how deeply you were walking in it, how great would John’s joy be?
- ⌚ Why should it matter to you that your faith blesses other Christians?
- ⌚ Some people are irritated by people of great faith. Why?



**Interactive Teaching Ideas:** ideas for learner-focused teaching. Ask the class to discuss at each table the following assignment and then share the results from each table:

**Read 3 John 5-8. Discuss at each table the following:**

**1) Who were the brothers that Gaius helped?**

**2) Why did he help them?**

**3) How did he help them?**

**4) How was Gaius used as an example for an important ministry?**

⌚ What are some of the ways you personally practice hospitality?

⌚ How can we encourage people to practice hospitality on Sunday?

⌚ How can we practice hospitality during the week?

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**Read 3 John 9-14**

3. What was Diotrephes weakness?

*Diotrephes was so hungry for attention that he wanted nothing to do with John and his companions. It had caused Diotrephes to gossip maliciously about John and anyone who has anything to do with John’s ministry. He is even throwing anyone out of the church who welcomes or has anything to do with the missionaries that were sent out. Can you imagine standing in the way of God’s mission work for your own ego or selfish desires?*

4. How does John deal with Diotrephes?
5. What instruction is given to Gaius and to all Christians who want to walk in the Truth?
6. What example besides Gaius does John offer?

⌚ What can we learn from the last two sentences?



**Going Deeper/Homework:**

**NOTE: TEACHERS**

**Memory Verse:** “Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act” (Proverbs 3:27).