

*The elder, to my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth...*

The writings of John often mention truth and love because Jesus spoke of both.

*Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ (John 1:17).*

*Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth (John 17:17).*

*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son (John 3:16).*

*Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another (John 13:34).*

Read the introduction to the letter in 3 John 1.

Describe the relationship between the writer and the recipient.

Who is someone in your life similar to Gaius?

Read 3 John 2-4.

What does verse 2 teach us about our relationships with one another?

What made the writer very glad?

How would you describe what it means to *walk in truth*?

Read 3 John 5-8.

What was Gaius faithfully doing?

What ought we to do?

Practically speaking, how do we do that today?

Read 3 John 9-12.

What was Diotrephes doing?

Why was Diotrephes doing these things?

John likes to use stark, simple contrasts. How do you see that in verse 11?

What was Demetrius' reputation, and how do you think he got it?

Read 3 John 13-15.

What reminder do verses 13-14 have for our modern world?

Verse 15 mentions friends, people who are dear to each other.

See John 15:13-15 to review the source of friendship among Christians.

2 and 3 John are important books on the topic of fellowship. What do they teach us?