

# ♪ Beloved, Let Us Love One Another First John 4:7 and 8 ♪

The New American Standard Bible (NASB) has been used to prepare this Study. When a question instructs you to use your "study tools/helps", this means to use *your personal concordance, dictionary or other resource.*

## Lesson FOUR

2<sup>nd</sup> John 1 through 3<sup>rd</sup> John 13

*Now that we have completed the book of 1<sup>st</sup> John, before continuing on, let's consider the following introduction and commentary by Pastor Jon Courson...*

"Because they were written as personal correspondence rather than as doctrinal statements or historical records, John's second and third epistles afford us the opportunity to eavesdrop on the early church, to read mail addressed to the group who 'turned the world upside down' (see Acts 17:6). And in so doing, we see that the old adage is indeed true: Wherever there are people, there are problems. So it is that in 2 and 3 John, John deals with people problems in the early church. In 2 John, he deals with them generically; in 3 John, he deals with them specifically.

There are times when we must speak the truth generally and let the Holy Spirit make application specifically. But there are also times when, like John, we must speak the truth to people individually and personally.

The lessons seen in John's last two epistles have great application to us congregationally, as families, and as individuals."

As we commit ourselves to the study of God's Word, let's remember the words spoken in the above commentary...even though these letters (epistles) were written to the early church, they were written to us as well! So...as we consider these last two epistles written by the Apostle John, let's keep an open heart and mind to apply these lessons in an intimate and personal way. "Lord, thank you for your Word. Please send the Holy Spirit to convict and encourage me as I learn what it means to walk close to You. Give me Your heart for my brothers and sisters and the ability to love others the

This week's Memory verse is **1 John 3:23**. Begin memorizing the verse(s) today. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you memorize this passage and for opportunities to apply it...

"This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded"

1 John 3:23

Write out 1 John 3:23: \_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_

*Write this verse(s) on your index cards... keep one with you and post the other one in a prominent place...*

**DAY ONE**

Pray, and read **2 John 1-6**

1. Who is this 2<sup>nd</sup> letter of John addressed to? (v.1) \_\_\_\_\_

 There is no "absolute" about who this "chosen lady and her children" are. According to YOUR study tools, what did you discover? Share your resource. \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* From this point, we are simply going to take the the content of 2 John and and apply it to us as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ – who are – continuing to learn the importance of walking according to the Word of God, and applying His commandments within our lives everyday...

2. The word **truth** is used three time in v.1-2. What do we learn from Jesus about Himself in John 14:6 (esp. v.6a)

A. With this in mind, answer the following questions:

\*\* What does it mean to love someone *in truth*? (See 1 John 3:18) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Why is it important that we love those who are *in the truth*? \_\_\_\_\_

B. Explain the statement *for the sake of the truth*. (v.2) \_\_\_\_\_

1. Where does the truth *abide*? \_\_\_\_\_

a. For how long? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What three things will be "with" to those having the truth abiding within them? (v.3) \_\_\_\_\_

A. **Personally** (based on your own experience) define *each of these words* **USING ONE WORD ONLY:**

\* Grace: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Mercy \_\_\_\_\_ \* Peace \_\_\_\_\_

1. Where do these promises come from? \_\_\_\_\_

a. What are they "wrapped" in? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

4. According to v. 4, what caused John to be "very glad"? \_\_\_\_\_

A. Give three examples of how you choose to *walk in the truth* daily...

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

1. How many were walking in the truth? \_\_\_\_\_

**"walking in the truth.** Ordering one's life by the Word of God." Ryrie Study Note

♥ What is preventing you from *ordering your life according to the Word of God*, **and** how will you gain victory over it? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Write out that commandment that was given from the beginning. (v.5). " ...that \_\_\_\_\_."

A. How does John define love in v.6? \_\_\_\_\_

1. If someone were to ask **you**: "How do you walk *according to His commandments* on a daily basis, what would be your response? \_\_\_\_\_



Perfect time to practice our memory verse, **1 John 3:23**: This is His commandment, that we \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ just as \_\_\_\_\_."

**DAY TWO**

Pray, and read **2 John 7-13**

1. What warning is given to this "chosen lady and her children"? (v.7a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. What, exactly, do these deceivers refuse to acknowledge? (v.7b) \_\_\_\_\_
    1. According to v.7c, whose work is this and who are these deceivers serving? \_\_\_\_\_

2. In v.8, the believer is exhorted to "watch yourselves", that...

\*\*\* you don't lose what? \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* but you receive what? \_\_\_\_\_

A. Does this have to do with our salvation? What does Revelation 3:11 say? \_\_\_\_\_

"This was not a crown of royalty, given because of royal birth. This was a crown of victory. Jesus encouraged His saints to finish their course with victory, to 'play the second half' just as strongly as they 'played the first half.'" David Guzik

3. What is declared about the one refusing to abide in the teaching of Christ? (v.9a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. On the other hand, what is declared about the one abiding in the teaching of Christ? (v.9b) \_\_\_\_\_

4. How are we instructed to treat those bringing a message other than the teaching of Jesus Christ? (v.10)

A. If the instruction given in v.10 is not followed, what is this disobedient person guilty of? (v.11)

"take him into your house. A reference to the housing and feeding of traveling teachers. The instruction does not prohibit greeting, or even inviting a person into one's home for conversation. John was warning against providing food and shelter, since this would be an investment in the "wicked work" of false teachers and would give public approval." NIV Study Bible

5. What do the closing remarks of this letter to his friends' reveal about John's heart? \_\_\_\_\_



Time to practice our Memory Verse **1 John 3:23**: \_\_\_\_\_

As we begin the book of 3rd John, let's consider the following introduction...

"This is a very personal letter, addressed to Gaius, which focuses on an ecclesiastical problem regarding traveling teachers. Gaius had given them hospitality, whereas Diotrephes, a self-assertive leader in one of the churches, had refused to receive them. John exhibits his apostolic authority in his rebuke of Diotrephes (v.10). Demetrius, who himself may have been a travelling teacher, probably delivered the letter to Gaius." Ryrie Study Bible

### DAY THREE

Pray, and read 3 John 1-8

1. Who is John writing to in 3<sup>rd</sup> John? (v.1) \_\_\_\_\_

A. Describe John's love for Gaius. \_\_\_\_\_

2. How does John refer to Gaius in v.2 and what was his prayer for him? \_\_\_\_\_

A. Give an example of what it is for *our soul to prosper*. Share your resource. \_\_\_\_\_

Define PROSPER \_\_\_\_\_

B. How does praying for these things differ from the "Prosperity/Name-it, Claim-it Doctrine" taught today? Read 1 John 5:14. This verse makes it clear that God is in charge and NOT us. "This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, \_\_\_\_\_ we ask anything \_\_\_\_\_, He hears us."

1. Jesus is our perfect example of how this works. When contemplating the cross, He asked that this cup of suffering be removed from Him, but what did He make absolutely clear? (Mark 14:36b) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Again, WHAT made John *very glad*? (v.3) \_\_\_\_\_

"True ministers rejoice more for the welfare of men's souls, than in preferment, wealth, or worldly honour." R. Yarbrough

A. Let's remember what we have been taught so far about our walk before the LORD.

\*\* 1 John 1:6-7 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* 1 John 2:6 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* 2 John 6 \_\_\_\_\_

♥ Does seeing your family in Christ and *walking in the truth* make your **heart glad**...or do you not even really think of it, let alone thank God for it? How do you remember to be glad as you see other believers walking in Truth? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What, specifically, did John commend Gaius for? (v.5-6a) \_\_\_\_\_

A. What instructions is Gaius given in regard to these men who testified on his behalf? (v.6b)

1. Why (v.7) \_\_\_\_\_

a. By supporting such men, what ultimately happens? (v.8) \_\_\_\_\_



Perfect time to practice 1 John 3:23: \_\_\_\_\_

**DAY FOUR**

Pray, and read 3 John 5:9-15

1. Who are we introduced to in v.9? \_\_\_\_\_  
A. What was he "known" for? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Interesting... does John "cover up" Diotrephes' conduct? (v.10a) Explain \_\_\_\_\_

A. What are the "deeds" John *will call attention to*? (v.10b) \_\_\_\_\_

1. What does Proverbs 27:5 say? \_\_\_\_\_

B. Notice...John points out that Diotrephes "loves to be first among them". Read Matthew 23:1-12. Share how this passage ministers to you? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What command is Gaius (and us) given in v.11a? "Beloved, \_\_\_\_\_."

A. According to the following verses, HOW do we learn to *not imitate evil*?

\*\* Romans 16:19 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* 1 Timothy 4:7 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Titus 3:14 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Hebrews 5:14 \_\_\_\_\_

1. Write out John's bottom-line. (v11b) \_\_\_\_\_

B. What is meant by the statement "the one who does evil has not seen God?" (See 1 John 3:6) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Who does John use as an example of godly conduct? (v.12) \_\_\_\_\_

A. What is Demetrius commended for? \_\_\_\_\_

**Something to Ponder:** Be honest. Most of the time, WHAT does your example (living testimony) speak of you? Take a few minutes and confess the areas that you KNOW are not worthy of *a good testimony* and ask for His forgiveness. Now ask Him, only if you are ready to be obedient, to mature you and increase His wisdom in you!

5. According to v.13-14, what was the desire of John's heart? \_\_\_\_\_

"I find it more than coincidental that John closes three of his four books, saying, in essence, 'There's so much more to say'. Because love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things, it should be no surprise that the 'apostle of love' would have a heart too full for mere paper to contain." Jon Courson

A. In closing, John pronounces "peace" *to them*. Who else sends their greetings? \_\_\_\_\_

Define FRIEND \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why do you think it was important enough for John to mention, "Greet the friends by name"?

\_\_\_\_\_

a. How does it make you "feel" to be greeted by your name? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Write out 1 John 3:23: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Ask someone if you may share **1 John 3:23** with him or her. If you did... share with your group ☺

*"But now faith, hope, love, abide these three;  
but the greatest of these is love."*

*1 Corinthians 13:13*

