



3 John

A 4 Week Inductive Bible Study

Scripture Paths Bible Studies
www.scripturepaths.com

By Lisa Hughes

Scripture Paths Bible Studies

Discovering the Treasures of the Word

- Welcome -

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?*

There is no better foundation for a believer than the rock-solid Word of God. It's my prayer that your faith and love for the Lord will be strengthened as you study His Word in these lessons. I want your hunger for the Scriptures to grow as you study its truths. And more than anything else, I want you to know that you can live upon the Word of God.

Steadfastness, assurance, and hope are the characteristics of all those who build upon the unshakeable foundation of the Word of God. That's why I'm so thrilled you've found your way to this Bible study. Our Bibles contain all the wisdom and guidance we'll need for our daily life (2 Peter 1:3). God's Word is one of the primary means God uses to strengthen our faith and sanctify our hearts. That's why it's so important to dig into the details of the Scriptures and mine the treasures tucked away for us there.

Scripture Paths Bible Studies are in-depth, inductive studies of the Scriptures. Each lesson endeavors to teach you how to feed yourself when you delve into God's Word. As you spend time on each lesson you will grow in Bible knowledge and understanding, learn how to apply the Scriptures to your life, and become more firmly convinced than ever that God's Word is authoritative, complete, without error, and sufficient for your life.

Helpful things to know about *Scripture Paths Bible Studies*:

1. *Purposefully prepared.* Each lesson has a unique goal, whether it's to train you in the art of studying the Scriptures or to showcase the point of the passage. None of it is busywork—it's lifework for our souls.
2. *Plan ahead.* Adding a Bible study to an already busy life takes preparation. You'll need to figure out when you can complete your lessons. Do you like to set aside bits of time each day to work on the lesson or do you prefer to do it all in one sitting? Try experimenting with a method that works best for you.
3. *Persevere.* Keep going to the Lord for wisdom, for strength, and the desire to press on when life gets busy and you find it difficult to finish your lessons.
4. *Pray.* Ask the Lord to transform you through the study of His Word. Use your study time to get to know the Lord better.

Scripture Paths Bible Studies

Discovering the Treasures of the Word

5. *Prompt your memory.* Try to glean little nuggets of truth or application from each lesson, and then share them with someone. This will help solidify what you're learning and encourage someone else too.

6. *Put it into practice.* Nearly every lesson has questions for you to apply to your life. To study just to study is not our goal. Studying to grow in our understanding of the Scriptures, of the Lord, and how to live lives honoring to Him is what we're aiming for. Look for opportunities to apply God's Word.

There are treasures upon the surface of the Word which we may pick up very readily: even the casual reader will find himself able to understand the simplicities and elements of the gospel of God; but the Word of God yields most to the digger. ~Charles Spurgeon

Scripture Paths Bible Studies

Discovering the Treasures of the Word

The Goal and Purpose of this Bible Study

John Calvin wrote, “We owe to the Scripture the same reverence which we owe to God, because it has proceeded from Him alone, and has nothing of man mixed with it.” It’s that premise which propels me to write and study the Bible for myself and encourage others to study along with me. God has revealed Himself in the pages of Scripture. The Bible is complete and authoritative and contains everything we need to live for His glory. It’s in the study of the Scriptures that we grow in our knowledge of God and are transformed into His likeness. A commitment to lean on and live in God’s Word is a distinguishing characteristic of a Christian, as Jesus explained to a crowd of His followers in John 8:31-32: “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

Because all “Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work,” (2 Tim. 3:16) we study inductively in order to glean as much as we can from the Word of God. Inductive Bible study consists of observation, interpretation, and application. Simply put, *observation* is noticing what the author is saying; *interpretation* is finding out what he means; and *application* is employing those truths in your life.

As you study this book of the Bible, it is my prayer you will grow in your commitment to the Word of God as *the* source of life and godliness, and that you will accept it, not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the Word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe (1 Thess. 2:13). As a young man Jonathan Edwards (one of America’s most famous theologians and preachers) made a list of resolutions he desired, by God’s grace, to do his best to live by. One of those commitments is resolution #28: “Resolved, to study the Scriptures so steadily, constantly and frequently, as that I may find, and plainly perceive myself to grow in the knowledge of the same.” May you see the study of God’s Word making such a difference in your life that you bear the fruit of wisdom and knowledge, overcome sin, and daily grow in godly conduct and love for Christ.

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Lisa Hughes

Scripture Paths Bible Studies

Discovering the Treasures of the Word

How to Use this Study

Feel free to tailor this study to your needs. Some have found it works best for them to complete the lesson in one sitting, while others find that breaking up the lesson by answering a few questions each day works the best for them. Try experimenting with different ways to complete each lesson, you'll soon discover what works for you and produces the most spiritual benefit.

Some of the lessons have what I call "Eager Beaver" questions. They're rabbit-trail questions. They don't really fit with the theme of the passage, but they're interesting, nonetheless. They're there for your enjoyment and growth.

Another feature of the Bible studies is the opportunity to do word studies. Whenever I want you to study a word further, I'll include the Strong's Exhaustive Concordance number with it. The Strong's number is basically a reference number attached to most words found in the Bible. That number allows you to search for it in different reference works easily—even when you don't know Hebrew or Greek. The easiest way to find the biblical definition is to use one of the many websites devoted to helping people study the Bible. Sites like www.blueletterbible.com and others like it, allow you to type in the Strong's number easily to find the word's definition. I do have a step by step guide for doing a word study the "old fashioned way," using books! If you plan to do your word definitions that way, then be sure to look for the guide I've put together to help you. *These tools are valuable for any Bible study student, yet not mandatory for completing these lessons.*

If you're new to studying the Bible then you may feel a bit overwhelmed, but I want to encourage you to stick with the study. Studying the Bible takes planning on your part and commitment, but the spiritual blessing and personal growth in Christ makes any "hardship" worth it. Remember, the goal of studying the Bible is that you would grow more in Christ, so start each lesson with a time of prayer asking the Lord for wisdom and His grace to study His Word, then continue to seek the Lord as you complete the lesson.

If you're a leader and you're introducing this study to your ladies for the first time, be sure to encourage them a lot! Though each lesson was written to achieve a specific purpose, you may find your ladies would fare best if they take two weeks to complete each lesson. If that's the case, feel free to do so. You want the ladies to enjoy studying God's Word, so keep encouraging them. Pray together, memorize a chapter out of the book, and dig into each lesson. As you work on the lessons each week you will all gain a clearer picture of our great God, His will for us, and how to live for Him. *And what could be better than that?*

Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore, my soul observes them.
The unfolding of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.
I opened my mouth wide and panted, for I longed for Your commandments.
Turn to me and be gracious to me, after Your manner with those who love Your name.
Establish my footsteps in Your word, and do not let any iniquity have dominion over me.
Psalm 119:129-133

1 John Commentary List

General Reference Helps

Kenneth Wuest, *Wuest's Word Studies from the Greek New Testament*

Wilkinson and Boa, *Talk Thru the Bible*

Walvoord and Zuck, *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*

Recommended Commentaries for 1 John

John MacArthur, *The John MacArthur Study Bible*

D. Edmond Hiebert, *The Epistles of John: An Expository Commentary*

Leon Morris, "1 John" in *New Bible Commentary: 21st Century Edition*

William Barclay, *The Letters of John and Jude*

William MacDonald, *Believer's Bible Commentary*

Warren Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*

Matthew Henry, *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume*

David Smith, "The Epistles of John" in *The Expositor's Greek Testament: Commentary*

Daniel Akin, *1, 2, 3 John*. Vol. 38. The New American Commentary

2 John Memory Verse

2 John 6

And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.

3 John Memory Verse

3 John 11

Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. The one who does good is of God; the one who does evil has not seen God.

— 3 John —
Lesson #1 Introduction

Read through the short book of 3 John two times before you begin answering the questions below.

Using only the text of 3 John, try to answer the following questions. Be sure to note the Scripture references to show where you found your answer from the Bible. *At this point in the lesson, you may not be able to answer every question using only your Bible.* You will have an opportunity at the end of this lesson to come back and complete your answers using other Bible study sources.

1. Who wrote the book?
2. To whom is it written?
3. When was the book written?
4. Where was it written?
5. What is the general tone of the author in the book?
6. What is the author's purpose in writing this book?
7. What topics are included in this book?

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8. What are the key words of the book? Key words are words that are repeated or carry an important thought.

9. What are the main themes of the book? A theme is the main idea, the overall message.

10. What attributes of God do you see in this book?

Now you can go back and add to your answers above using your study Bible, a Bible dictionary or Bible commentary.

11. What insights have you gained thus far in your study of 3 John?

12. Did you discover a verse or two in the book that caught your attention? How did it encourage or convict you, or make you want to study and think about it more?

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- a. Next, *list the phrase containing the key words* on a separate sheet of paper. This step will allow you to pull together the information you noted from marking the key words. Be sure to cite the verse references when you list your key word information.

For example, with *God* as your key word you would begin to make a list of the information you discovered every time God is mentioned in 2 John Chapter 1. Your Chapter 1 list about *God* should begin by looking something like the one below.

Verse 3—from *God the Father*

Verse 3—the Son of the *Father*

Verse 4—received commandment to do from the *Father*

Fun study tip to try: Mark any key/repeated words that you notice appear all the way through the book, even if their use in individual chapters may not fit the “3 times or more” rule. This will allow you to trace major themes and an author’s thoughts throughout the book.

5. MARK and LIST. Mark any *commands* that are listed in the chapter. Look for things the author is telling his readers to do or be. Now, list them on your separate sheet of paper in the same way you did for the key words.
6. MARK and LIST. Mark words or phrases that are being *compared or contrasted*. Words like *as, likewise, in the same manner, or like* will help you find words or phrases being compared. Contrasting words like “light/dark” or “love/hate” and the word “but” will help you find words or phrases that are being contrasted. Now list what you discovered about comparisons and contrasts on the extra paper you’ve been using.
7. MARK. Mark transition terms: *therefore, wherefore, finally*. Sometimes an author has his own kind of transition term that lets you know he is making a switch to a new topic, so be sure to look for those kinds of terms. (Generally, these are at the beginning of a paragraph.)
8. MARK and LIST. Mark any time *so that* is used. In putting together your list, look for what comes before the “so that” which will bring about or produce some kind of result. For example, in Philippians 1:10 “so that” appears, but in order to understand its significance you need to also look at verse 9. Your entry for Philippians 1:9-10 might say something like, “Paul prays that the Philippians’ love would abound in real knowledge and all discernment *so that* they would be able to approve the things that are excellent and live sincerely and blamelessly until the day of Christ.” I think you will be so blessed by this part of your observation time!

Scripture Paths Bible Studies

9. MARK. Mark expressions of time—words like *shortly, quickly, soon, for a little while*.
10. MARK. Mark words that are synonyms of each other. For example: *Paul and Timothy are bond-servants* from 1:1.
11. LIST. List any *attributes* of God, Christ, or the Holy Spirit that you notice in this chapter. You'll start this list by going back up to your listed "God" words that you marked earlier in Question #4. An attribute is a characteristic or quality used to describe an object or person.

For example, you might read John 3:16, "*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.*" From this verse we see that God is *loving* [because He loved the world]; He is *giving* [because He gave His Son]; He is *eternal* [because only the eternal can offer eternal life].

12. LIST. Look for lists of words, phrases, or related thoughts. Number the lists within the Bible text, then record your list out to the side in the margin or on a separate sheet of paper. This will help you see the thought progression of the author or the results of some action.

For example, in 1 John 1:1 we find a list about the *Word of Life*. We discover 1) the Word of Life was from the beginning; 2) John heard the Word of Life; 3) John saw the Word of Life with his own eyes; 4) John looked at the Word of Life; 5) John touched the Word of life with his hands.

13. NOTE. Be sure to mark or write down any "nuggets" you observed that you thought were interesting, spurred on some thought, or made you want to study further.

Remember, the purpose of this lesson is to observe and take note of what is in the chapter. You are not making any interpretations or applications to your life right now. Your task at this time is to simply look for the treasures that God has put in each chapter.

As you do this lesson, take time to worship and thank the Lord that He has preserved His Word for you to study. Admire and marvel at what He placed in this chapter for you to notice. There really isn't any other time in our studies where we simply look at, think on, and study God's Word for itself, so have fun with this lesson! And may the Lord be blessed by your labors!

3 John Chapter 1

1 The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.

2 Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.

3 For I was very glad when brethren came and testified to your truth, that is, how you are walking in truth.

4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.

5 Beloved, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially when they are strangers;

6 and they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God.

7 For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles.

8 Therefore we ought to support such men, so that we may be fellow workers with the truth.

9 I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not accept what we say.

10 For this reason, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds which he does, unjustly accusing us with wicked words; and not satisfied with this, he himself does not receive the brethren, either, and he forbids those who desire to do so and puts them out of the church.

11 Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. The one who does good is of God; the one who does evil has not seen God.

12 Demetrius has received a good testimony from everyone, and from the truth itself; and we add our testimony, and you know that our testimony is true.

13 I had many things to write to you, but I am not willing to write them to you with pen and ink;

14 but I hope to see you shortly, and we will speak face to face.

15 Peace be to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

— 3 John —
Lesson #3 Chapter 1:1-8

Before you begin this lesson, prepare your heart by going to the Lord for help in understanding His Word and wisdom in applying it. May you be blessed as you dig into this passage!

1. John identifies himself in the opening of this letter in the same way he did in 2 John. What does he say about himself in verse 1?

2. Who is he writing in according to verse 1? What do you learn about the recipient of this letter and how John regards him from verse 1?

3. In verse 1, we read that John's love for Gaius is guided by the truth. How does a common truth lead to love for the brethren? See John 3:21; 1 John 1:6-7; 2 John 1-4; 3 John 3-4?

4. What does John desire for Gaius according to verse 2?
 - a. What is the *primary focus* of John's hopes for Gaius?

 - b. Before John hopes the more temporal blessings upon Gaius, John recognizes that those things are best enjoyed in a fully satisfied soul. Why do we need our own soul's to be rich and thriving in the Lord before we can fully enjoy the more fleeting blessings of this life?

- c. How does that help you adjust your own thinking about real “prosperity”?
5. What does it look like when your soul prospers? See the following Scriptures to get you started. Feel free to add your own verses to this list: Psalm 23; 92:12-14; Proverbs 3:5-8; 2 Corinthians 9:8; Colossians 1:3-6; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; Philemon 4-7.
6. Conversely, describe what it’s like when your soul isn’t prospering in the Lord. What’s the answer for returning to that place of richness of soul? See Psalm 37:1-6; 119:17-24, 25-32; Isaiah 55:6-7; 1 Corinthians 10:13; 1 John 1:9.
- “It is clear that Gaius was a man whose “spiritual health” was evident to all. “Though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day” (2 Cor. 4:16). Physical health is the result of nutrition, exercise, cleanliness, proper rest, and the disciplined order of a balanced life. Spiritual health is the result of similar factors. We must nourish ourselves with the Word, and then “work out” that nourishment in godly exercise (1 Tim. 4:6–7). We must keep ourselves clean (2 Cor. 7:1) and avoid the contamination and pollution that is in the world (2 Peter 1:4; James 1:27). While exercise and service are important, it is also important that we rest in the Lord and gain new strength through fellowship with Him (Matt. 11:18–30). A balanced life is a healthy and happy life, a life that honors God.” ~Warren Wiersbe¹
7. What is the “key” to gaining and maintaining a prosperous soul? See also Psalm 19:7-14; 119:25-26, 97-104; Jeremiah 6:16; James 1:21.
8. What are some ways *you* can build into *your* soul’s “prosperity” and apply Paul’s counsel to Timothy to “take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress will be evident to all” (1 Timothy 4:15)?

¹ Wiersbe, Warren W. 1996. *The Bible Exposition Commentary*. Vol. 2. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

9. What news brought joy to John according to verse 3?
10. In fact, how does John rate his joy upon hearing this news according to verse 4? Why is that according to verse 4? See also 1 Corinthians 13:6; 1 Thessalonians 3:6-8; 2 Thessalonians 1:3; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:14.
11. What do you learn about walking in the truth from John 4:23-24; 8:43-47; 14:6; 17:17-19; 1 John 1:6; 2 John 1-4; 3 John 3-4, 8, 12?
- a. If you could sum up in one simple statement what you've just discovered about those who walk in the truth, what would it be?

"What made Gaius such a good testimony? *God's truth*. The truth was "in him" and enabled him to walk in obedience to God's will. Gaius read the Word, meditated on it, delighted in it, and then practiced it in his daily life (see Ps. 1:1-3). What digestion is to the body, meditation is to the soul. It is not enough merely to *hear* the Word or *read* the Word. We must inwardly "digest it" and make it part of our inner persons (see 1 Thes. 2:13). It is clear that Gaius' entire life was wrapped up in the truth. True living comes from the living truth. Jesus Christ, the truth (John 14:6), is revealed in the Word, which is God's truth (John 17:17). The Holy Spirit is also truth (1 John 5:6), and He teaches us the truth. The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to reveal the Son of God, and then to enable us to obey the will of God and "walk in truth." ~Warren Wiersbe²

12. What reminder and commendation does John give Gaius in verse 5?

² Wiersbe, Warren W. 1996. *The Bible Exposition Commentary*. Vol. 2. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

13. What do you learn from the following Scriptures that encourages us in the same direction? See Romans 12:13; Galatians 5:13; 6:9-10; 1 Timothy 5:8; Titus 3:8, 13-14; Hebrews 6:10; 13:1; James 2:14-17; 1 John 3:16-18.
- a. Quick! Come up with a short list of ways you can do good to the brethren. How might you be able to put them into practice this week?
14. Dear friend, take this word from the Lord to heart, “Beloved, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren.” How do those words encourage you? If they cast reproach upon you, what needs to change in your heart, and then in your life, so those words can become a blessing to your soul?
15. How did the recipients of Gaius’ ministry respond? See verse 6. What does this tell you about how Gaius ministered to them?
16. What further encouragement does John give Gaius in verse 6? Note any tidbits you gain about this loving service from Matthew 25:40; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8; Philippians 4:15-19; Titus 3:13-14; Philemon 7.
17. What reason is given for showing such care for the brethren? See verse 7. Why is this reason enough to shower care upon these devoted brethren? See also 1 Corinthians 16:15-16, 18; Philippians 2:29; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; 1 Timothy 5:17-18.

18. John gives another reason for the care and support for those who labor in the ministry in verse 8. What do you learn? See also 2 Corinthians 1:7; Galatians 6:6-10; Philippians 2:29-30; Hebrews 10:33.
19. We've covered a lot of soul-searching ground in these few verses. What truths have stood out to you in this lesson that you want to hang onto and apply?

“Christians should do even the common actions of life and of good-will after a godly sort, as serving God therein, and designing His glory.” ~Matthew Henry³

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.
1 Corinthians 10:31

³ Henry, Matthew. 1994. *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: Complete and Unabridged in One Volume*. Peabody: Hendrickson.

— 3 John —
Lesson #4 Chapter 1:9-15

As you come to this last lesson, ask the Lord to pull things together for you in your heart. May you be blessed as you dig into this passage!

1. In verse 9 John relates something rather shocking. What is it (verse 9)? What apparently happened to John's letter according to verse 9?
2. What do we learn about Diotrephes from verse 9?
3. Galatians 5:19 tells us the deeds of the flesh are evident, and that's certainly true in this little description about Diotrephes. As you think about Diotrephes, what sins are on display in verse 9?
4. How should Diotrephes have responded to the letter from John? See Matthew 23:11-12; John 13:12-17; Romans 12:10, 16; Philippians 2:3-5; 1 Peter 5:1-3.
5. It can be so easy to distance ourselves from the sins on display in verse 9, yet they can show up in us as well. Sometimes the seed-versions of those sins are renamed so they sound less...well...sinful. Descriptions like *strong*, *independent*, *opinionated*, *proactive*, *sassy*, *competitive* and more can keep us from dealing with the sin of our own hearts. Take some time to talk with the Lord about any areas where you might notice your own version of Diotrephes' sins, like the love of being noticed and enjoying preeminence or not cultivating a teachable and humble spirit regarding the Word of God and church leadership. Remember and apply the counsel from Psalm 139:23-24; 2 Corinthians 13:5; 1 Timothy 5:24-25.

- c. What truths should we remember when we are dealing with a situation like this? See Psalm 37:1-11; Romans 12:17-21; 1 Corinthians 10:13 to get you started. Feel free to add to this list.
10. In the second half of verse 11, what wise reminder is given that helps us look at situations like these with clarity and insight?
11. John spoke similarly in his other letters: John 10:27; 1 John 1:6-7; 2:4, 29; 3:6-10; 5:18-20. Again, how do these clear and defining statements help us when we're dealing with "people situations" within the church?
12. In contrast to Diotrephes, John points out the example of Demetrius. What do we learn about this brother in the Lord from verse 12?
13. What do you learn about the word *testimony* [Strong's #3140 (NIV *well spoken of*)] from verse 12?
14. The reason isn't given outright in the text as to why Demetrius is introduced at this juncture in John's letter to Gaius, yet the context clearly reveals why John mentions him. Based on what we've been studying, why does John mention Demetrius?

15. In God's Kingdom, God blesses those who devote themselves to Him. What do you learn from the following Scriptures about how to do that, why you should, and anything else you notice? See John 21:20-22; 1 Corinthians 6:20; Philippians 1:20; 1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Timothy 3:10-11.

16. John closes his letter as he did previously in 2 John. What does he desire to do according to verses 13-14?

17. What final blessing does John give in verse 14? What is conveyed in that little statement? See John 20:19, 21, 26; Galatians 6:16; Ephesians 6:23; 1 Peter 5:14.

18. *The Believer's Bible Commentary* ends this letter saying, "We are indebted to him [John] for these Letters, giving us an insight into life in the early days of Christianity, and setting forth timeless instruction for the people of God. Soon we shall speak face to face in heaven, and then we shall understand more fully the occasional obscurities of divine revelation."² What truths from our studies in John's letters have made an impact on your life and thinking?

19. What verse(s) have you grown to appreciate or appreciate even more during your study of this book?

20. Commentator David Jackman perceptively writes, "As we have looked at these three very different, and yet representative, church members around whom the letter revolves, we

² MacDonald, William. 1995. *Believer's Bible Commentary: Old and New Testaments*. Edited by Arthur Farstad. Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

cannot fail to be challenged concerning our own discipleship. *The ultimate proof of the truth we profess to believe and the love we profess to exercise will be seen neither in words nor in feelings but in the progressive transformation of our character, and therefore of our lifestyle, into the image of Christ.*"

He goes on to say, "The challenge to us now is how much are we really prepared to let Jesus Christ change us. Is it to be my will or His? On this will depend the ultimate verdict, whether we proved to be frauds or followers. Who is at the centre of our lives? Is it 'self' with its longing to be first, to be number one? Or is it Christ, enabling us to keep faithful and to continue walking in the truth? There is still no issue with greater or more far-reaching implications for the church or for the Christian."³ *Dear friends, how much are we really prepared to let Jesus Christ change us?*

Peace be to you.

³ Jackman, David. 1988. *The Message of John's Letters: Living in the Love of God*. The Bible Speaks Today. Leicester, England; Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.