



# SMALL GROUP STUDY

## How People of God Handle Difficult Situations

John writes about what it means to Love the Truth. Love and hospitality must be regulated by the truth. True love requires love for truth. You can't throw out truth for love's sake.

### 2nd John

One of the most loving things you can do is to tell people the truth! Love and truth must never be separated. John says, "Don't show hospitality to false teachers." Be careful with your love to the wrong people.

#### *Discussion Questions:*

- In what situations did Jesus speak against another person? What about Elijah and Paul?
- Examine your heart: when might you choose not to tell someone the truth? Why?
- This is Love: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 John 1:6
- Love rejoices in \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Cor 13:6
- Who is the "elect" lady spoken of in 2nd John?

### 3rd John

This is the shortest book in the bible and the most personal of John's writings. It is written to Gaius. Love for truth requires true love demonstrated. It says, "Do show hospitality to faithful teachers." Be lavish with your love to the right people.

#### *Discussion Questions:*

- What is literary context and how does it apply to 3 John 1:2
- Why did John say, "I have no greater joy than to hear my children walk in truth?"
- What characteristics did John call out regarding Diotrephes? How did those contrast with faithful teachers like Gaius?
- "Beloved, do not \_\_\_\_\_ what is evil, but what is \_\_\_\_\_. He who does \_\_\_\_\_ is of God, but he who does \_\_\_\_\_ has not seen God." 3 John 1:11

### Jude

Jude was the brother of James and the 1/2 brother of Jesus Christ. At first he did not believe in Jesus. He writes to "contend earnestly for the faith." Love all people enough to tell them the truth.

#### *Discussion Questions:*

- How does Jude instruct them to fight for the faith? Why?
- What is THE FAITH?
- Examine your heart: How can you contend for the faith right where you are?
- "speak the truth in \_\_\_\_\_" 1 pet 3:15 In what situation do you need to speak the truth? And, how can you speak that truth with meekness and fear?
- Examine your heart: How can you "keep yourself in the love of God?"