

SUNDAY RECAP

Sunday was the final week of our series, **Resurrection Living**, going through the letters of John (1, 2, and 3 John). **This week we focused on 3 John.** Before you begin, pause together and invite the Holy Spirit to guide your conversation.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Don't feel pressured to get through every question! Follow where the Spirit leads and spend your time on the questions that spark meaningful discussion. (Questions sourced from John Stott's Bible Study Guide for the Letters of John).

OPTIONAL ICEBREAKER: When have you been grateful for a warm welcome from other believers, even if they did not know you well? Has there been a circumstance you were glad you extended Christian hospitality to someone else?

READ THE PASSAGE TOGETHER: 3 John

CONTEXT: *In 2 John, "the elder" writes to a local church and in 3 John he addresses by name a leader in a local church and refers to two others. His mention of Gaius, Diotrephes and Demetrius gives a clearer glimpse into the inner life of a first-century church. In 2 John, the church is warned not to extend hospitality to false teachers, while in 3 John "the elder" commends Gaius for the hospitality he has shown to teachers of the truth, urges him to continue it, and rebukes Diotrephes for his refusal to welcome them. 2 John & 3 John must be read together if we are to gain a balanced understanding of the duties and limits of Christian hospitality.*

1. **Verses 1-8:** How had Gaius' collaboration with truth benefited the church in practical ways? Why was it commendable that the traveling missionaries had not accepted help from outsiders?
2. **Verses 9-14:** We don't know anything else about Diotrephes except what we read here. How was he suppressing rather than walking in the truth?
3. John is addressing a conflict present in this church. Why is it so difficult to balance truth and love when confronting a problem in a Christian community?
4. How can you actively welcome Christian missionaries like Gaius did?
5. What barriers to hospitality do you feel in your own life?
6. Despite indications of conflict, John concludes with "peace be with you" ... When have you most strongly experienced peace - personally or within a church fellowship?

(Questions sourced from John Stott's Bible Study Guide for the Letters of John).

GROUP PRAYER TIME: Share requests and pray for one another. Use the prayer prompts below to guide your prayer time as a group (or individually this week)

- Pray for opportunities to extend a warm welcome to other believers
- Ask God for boldness and compassion in situations of conflict where you are called to confront others
- Pray for the peace of Christ within you, your Christian community and in the world



SUMMER SERMON SERIES: *Traits of the Greats* (May 31-Aug 9)

For the next 11-weeks we will take a closer look at a different Bible character each week, discovering how their stories point us to the Gospel story and Jesus himself. We'll get to hear from a diverse range of voices and guest preachers.

SUMMER BREAK: We encourage our small groups to take a break during the summer!

If you decide to continue meeting, we will provide ONE discussion guide for the summer series. Weekly Digging Deeper guide will be back when groups relaunch in the fall.

MORE WAYS TO ENGAGE

Fair Oaks Church Sermon Podcast (Apple Podcasts & Spotify): Listen to weekly sermons (Sunday message posted by Tuesdays)

Cutting Room Floor Episodes - Break for the summer, will return in the fall!

UPCOMING EVENTS [Learn more at fairoaks.church/events](https://fairoaks.church/events)

- **5/30: Men's Worship Night** | 7pm | Upper Youth Lawn | Dessert/Snacks Provided
- **6/4: WFO Brunch** | 9:30-11:30a | AMC
- **6/7: Prayer Partner Luncheon** | 12p | FLC | Sign up to be a prayer partner at fairoaks.church/students
- **6/10: Hope Gathering Widows Group** | 6-8p | FLC Conf Rooms
- **6/12: Food Distribution at FO/OV Food Bank** | 9a-12:30p
- **6/14: Food Drive** | Bring donations to church lobby
- **6/14: Summer Blast Volunteer Training** | 12p | AMC
- **6/15-6/19: Summer Blast Kids Camp** | 9a-12p | Registration is open for campers and volunteers at fairoaks.church/kids (Closes after June 7)



DID YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE COME & SEE INITIATIVE?

Please take a 5-minute anonymous survey to share your experience with us!

