

June 7

The Bright Side: Hospitality

Read Scripture:

1 John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. 2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4 We write this to make our joy complete.

2 John 7...many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist...9 Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take them into your house or welcome them.

3 John 4 ...To my dear friend Gaius... 5 ...you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers and sisters, even though they are strangers to you...8 We ought therefore to show hospitality to such people so that we may work together for the truth. 9 I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first, will not welcome us. 10 ...[or] other believers. He also stops those who want to do so...

Daniel 7:9 “As I looked, “thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool...13 “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worship.

Discussion Questions:

1. John contrasts “prophets of darkness” with fellowship, hospitality, and embodied love. In your own life, where are you most tempted to withdraw, isolate, or become suspicious of others instead of moving toward connection? What experiences shaped that tendency?
2. The passage emphasizes that Jesus was “seen,” “heard,” and “touched”—a faith grounded in real relationship, not abstract ideas. When do you find yourself keeping your faith intellectual, controlled, or private rather than relational and vulnerable? What feels risky about being truly known?

3. Hospitality in 3 John is presented as costly and courageous, especially toward strangers. Who is difficult for you to welcome emotionally, spiritually, or practically right now? What fears, judgments, or wounds make hospitality hard in that situation?
4. The lesson suggests that darkness grows when fear and pessimism dominate a community. What “dark narratives” do you most often believe about yourself, your family, the church, or the future? How do those beliefs affect the way you treat people?
5. John says fellowship leads to “complete joy,” yet many adults experience loneliness even in community. Where do you currently feel disconnected or unseen? What would honest, healing communion with others require from you personally?
6. **1 LIFE engagement question:** How has God been challenging you as you join Him in engaging with your ONE? Pray for courage.

ONE aim: To see God at work in the relationships He has placed around us and join Him in His work. Praying for others in this and sharing stories builds our faith and gives us courage. Be patient and extend grace to one another as each one of you devotes yourselves to following Jesus' lead in your relationships.