



Day 3 *Faithfulness*

Silence (2 minutes) Take some time to be quiet, to calm down, and to listen. What has God been teaching you? What are the next steps He wants you to take? How is your spirit doing?

Scripture *"It gave me great joy to have some believers come and tell me about your faithfulness to the truth and how you continue to walk in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers, even though they are strangers to you."*

3 John 3-5

Discussion The apostle John writes this letter to Gaius about how traveling Christians who minister to others are being welcomed by some individuals and shunned by others. John praises Gaius for his faithfulness to the truth and his faithfulness toward these traveling strangers, brothers and sisters in Christ who are building the Church. John is hearing about Gaius' faithfulness from others. Our faithfulness to the living person of Jesus, our trust in His death for our sin and His resurrection from the dead, and our searching, pondering, and obedience to the Bible need to so permeate our hearts and thoughts that our faithfulness is continually expressed in our actions. And, we too need to be faithful to the needs of those others who are building the Church in our time. Therefore, we must first pay attention to, and listen for those needs. It is our business to be aware of those needs. *"Just as each of us has one body with many members and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."* (Rom. 12:4-5) Let us give reason for others to report about our abundant faithfulness to the truth and the Body, not for our popularity, but that Jesus is thanked and honored.

Application Living faithfully for God doesn't happen by accident! Consider what it would look like to live faithfully in every area of your life: with your family, at work, in your marriage, etc. Pick one part of your life you can focus on and ask God to help you live faithfully for Him in that area today.

Prayer Lord Jesus, thank You for the privilege of being part of Your Church. Thank You that others are faithful to You by helping me to grow closer to You and thank You that I have the same privilege of encouraging them. I commit myself to continually talk with You, and listen and obey You. I commit myself to deeply learn what the Bible means, how it applies to me in my worship, thoughts, speech, finances, relationships, temptations, and service. And, I commit myself to pay attention to the needs of brothers and sisters in Christ, and to take the initiative to serve You by serving them. Thank you. Amen.

Silence (2 minutes) Talk to God about what you are learning. What are your fears? Where are your hangups? Pray for direction.

Scripture memory for the week:

"Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope. Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3:21-23