

May 31/June 1, 2008

*Walking in the Truth: A Study in II and III John*

## **Acting Faithfully**

**III John 1-8**

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### **Opening Discussion**

1. How would you define hypocrisy? Would you consider people who say they believe one thing but live contrary to their stated belief hypocrites? Why or why not?
2. Do you think someone can truly believe something but not live consistent with that belief? Why or why not?
3. Which do you think motivates people more, the negative or the positive? Why? Does your daily treatment of others reflect a tendency towards the negative or positive?
4. What makes the difference between those people who daily live out their faith in the most practical ways and those who say they believe but fail to “act faithfully” to that belief in daily living?

### **Bible Study**

1. Read III John 1-8. What similarities do you see between the message of II John and the content of III John 1-8?
2. What is the source of John’s joy in III John 1-4? What is the difference between walking in the truth and keeping the rules?
3. What would be the process or strategy for helping people walk in the truth rather than just keeping the rules?
4. What caused John to declare that Gaius was walking in the truth? How did he know that?
5. If we truly believe what we say we believe (perhaps review that) what “ought” we do according to III John 7, 8? What would this mean in our culture today?
6. What does John say is true of us as believers if we “act faithfully” as Gaius did? What’s the connection between helping with the landscaping with those whose lives have been changed by the ministry of LBC?

### **Application**

1. If you were to be honest, are you more of a rule keeper or do you believe you are walking in the truth?
2. If you are a rule keeper, how can you transition to walking in the truth?
3. If you are walking in the truth, what does that look like for you on a daily basis? What is the evidence that you are “acting faithfully” if John sent brethren to check you out?
4. For those who are simply sitting in the pews watching others serve, give, etc... what would you say to them to motivate them to get involved? What motivates you to “act faithfully”?