

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

3 JOHN SERIES

These questions are for the **September 10, 2017** sermon, "Of Body and Soul." Please read the sermon passage (3 John 1-4) together out loud.

SERMON OUTLINE

GOD-HONORING RELATIONSHIPS ARE DISTINGUISHED BY . . .

1. The wellness we desire for each other (1-2)
 - a. John emphasized the needs of Gaius, not his own needs.
 - b. John sought to encourage a leader with a hard job.
 - c. John emphasizes his relationship with Gaius, calling him "beloved."
 - d. John prayed for Gaius, that all would go well with him
 - i. Good health (external)
 - ii. In his soul (internal)
2. The walk we take with each other (3-4)
 - a. John encouraged Gaius about the ministry impact he was having on the others.
 - b. John encouraged Gaius in how his manner of life was impacting others.
 - i. Even while John approached the end of his life, he was engaged in ministry,
 - ii. And encouraged by the faithfulness of the next generation.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: In what ways do you tend to focus on your own needs when you pray? When John prayed, he allowed love to fuel his prayer life, and truth to guide his prayer life (1). How does love for others fuel your prayer life? How does truth guide your prayer life?
2. Based on #1, above: John prayed that "all may go well with you" both outside (health) and inside (soul). Do you tend to pray for the "outside" more? Or the "inside"? How can you become more balanced in the way you pray for your friends and family?
3. Based on #2, above: John was old-maybe 90 years old-when he wrote this letter, yet he was still focused on encouraging others (in the next generation) in their service to God. Give an example of someone in your life who encourages you in your service to God. How do they encourage you?
4. Based on #2, above: Who is someone half your age who truly encourages you because of the way they serve the Lord? Would you be willing to follow John's example and write them a letter this week? Even if you feel weak (like John)? What are some other ways that you can encourage the "next generation" of those who are serving the Lord?
5. Based on #2, above: Have you ever led someone to Christ? John, here, is focusing on the faithfulness of one he had previously led to Jesus Christ. Is there someone that you think God may be prompting you to share Jesus Christ with? Are you ready? How can we help you? Can we pray for you now?