

**EPISTLE OF 3 JOHN  
FELLOWHELPERS TO THE TRUTH  
3 JOHN 1-8**

**Introduction**

This little epistle was written to a faithful member of a Church. We do not know where this Church was located. There are at least four men in the New Testament by the name of Gaius. This Gaius cannot positively be identified with any of the others. But his name means, "*I am glad.*"

This epistle reveals the responsibility of the individual in the Church to so walk in the truth that they "*might be fellowhelpers, to the truth.*" *Vs. 8*

**I want us to see in these first 8 verses that BEING A FELLOWHELPER TO THE TRUTH REQUIRES THAT ONE BE WALKING IN THE TRUTH! (Vs 1-8)**

**I. WE SEE THE APOSTLE'S LOVE FOR GAIUS!**

*(vs. 1, Cf. 2 John 1)*

**John's love for Gaius was rooted in the truth and on account of the truth.** Which is nothing like the sentimental love today which is so often contrary to the truth and not truly love.

**II. WE SEE THE APOSTLE'S WISH FOR GAIUS! (vs. 2)**

His wish (or prayer and desire) was that Gaius' health might prosper.

Specifically, He desired that Gaius physical health might equal his spiritual health.

If someone desired that of us, would we think that was a good thing or a bad thing? The answer to that will tell you something about your spiritual health.

Sadly, many people today are greatly concerned about their physical health, but they pay little attention to their spiritual health.

*2 Corinthians 4:16—“For which cause we faint not; but **though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.***

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**Some Of The Same Principles That Make Us Healthy Physically Can Also Be Applied To Our Spiritual Health!**

**A. Just Like We Need A Proper Physical Diet, We Need A Proper Spiritual Diet!**

1. **Physically We Need To Eat A Balanced Diet For Proper Health! (e.g. *The Food Pyramid!*)**
2. **Spiritually We Need A Balanced Diet Of The Word Of God For Proper Spiritual Health! (i.e. Through teaching, preaching, studying!)**

*1 Timothy 4:6- “If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, **nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.**”*

*Jeremiah 15:16 “Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.”*

*1 Peter 2:2 “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:”*

**B. Just Like We Need Physical Exercise For Our Physical Health, We Need Proper Spiritual Exercise For Our Spiritual Health! (i.e. Exercise In Godliness!)**

*1 Timothy 4:7b-8- “...**exercise thyself rather unto godliness. 8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.***

1. **Godliness In Conversation (Behavior)!**
  - a. **Godliness Involves Our Testimony! (i.e. That's the us that people see!)**

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- b. Godliness Involves Our Prayer Life!**  
(That's the us that God sees!)  
*Luke 18:1 – "...men ought always to pray and not to faint."*  
  
*1 Thessalonians 5:17—"Pray without ceasing."*
- c. Godliness Involves Our Giving!**  
(Giving of our Time, Talent, Treasure!)
- d. Godliness Involves Our Witness!**

*Godliness In Conversation (Behavior)*

- 2. Godliness In Cleanliness.**  
*2 Corinthians 7:1- "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."*

**Avoid the pollution of the world.**  
*2 Peter 1:4- "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."*

*James 1:27- "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."*

*WE SEE THE APOSTLE'S LOVE FOR GAIUS!  
WE SEE THE APOSTLE'S WISH FOR GAIUS!*

**III. WE SEE THE APOSTLE'S REJOICING IN GAIUS' WALK!**  
(Vs. 3-4)

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- A. He Rejoiced Because Of Gaius' Inward Truth As Testified To By Brethren. (Vs 3a)**

*Psalm 1:1-3, Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.*

- B. He Rejoiced Because Of Gaius' Outward Walk In The Truth As Testified To The Brethren! (Vs. 3b)**

*See Philippians 2:12-16*

- C. We See The Apostle's Greatest Joy. (Vs. 4)**

- D. Remember The Source Of All Truth.**

- 1. Jesus Is The Truth!**  
*John 14:6 - "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."*
- 2. God's Word Is The Truth.**  
*John 17:17 - "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."*
- 3. The Holy Spirit Is The Spirit Of Truth.**  
*1 John 5:6d, "...And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.*
- 4. The Church Is The Pillar And Ground Of The Truth.**  
*1 Timothy 3:15 - "...the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."*

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**IV. WE SEE GAIUS' WALK IN TRUTH AND LOVE EXPRESSED!**

*(Vs. 5-8)*

**A. His Truth And Love Expressed In Hospitality. (Vs. 5)**

**1. His Hospitality To The Brethren.**

**2. His Hospitality To Strangers.**

*Hebrews 13:2 - "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers:  
for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."*

**B. The Need For His Hospitality. (Vs. 7-8)**

The missionaries were in this work for "*His name's sake.*"  
*(vs. 7a)* They were witnesses to the lost.

The missionaries took nothing from the Gentiles. *v. 7b.*  
They did not ask the unsaved to finance the work they were  
doing.

By his love and hospitality shown to these workers for the  
Lord, Gaius was a fellowhelper to the truth. *(v. 8)*

*Galatians 6:6 "Let him that is taught in the word communicate  
unto him that teacheth in all good things."*

*Galatians 6:9 "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in  
due season we shall reap, if we faint not. 10 As we have  
therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially  
unto them who are of the household of faith."*

**Conclusion**

Are you a fellowhelper of the Truth? Doing what you can to minister to those  
who minister the Truth?