

Facebook

WEDNESDAY'S

IN THE

Sermon Audio

WORD



7:00 PM

PVBC

Series:

Living in Discernment
The Third Epistle of
JOHN

Four books that are single chapters in the Bible:

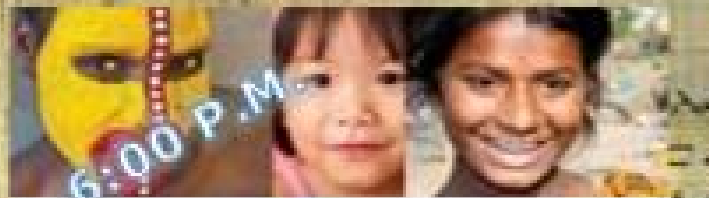
~~1. Jude~~

~~2. 2 John~~

3. 3 John

4. Philemon

HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR INFLUENCES?



WHAT IN THE  IS GOD DOING?



Influences on
your health



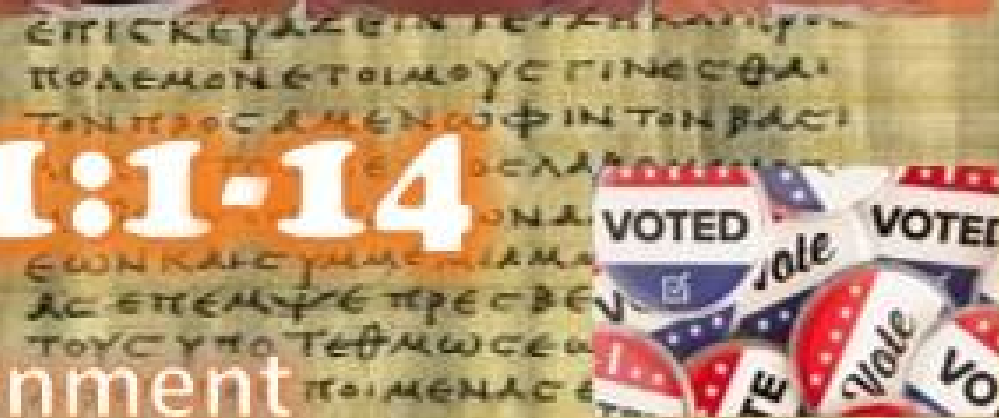
Who do you Listen
to for advice?

3rd John 1:1-14

Series:

Living in Discernment

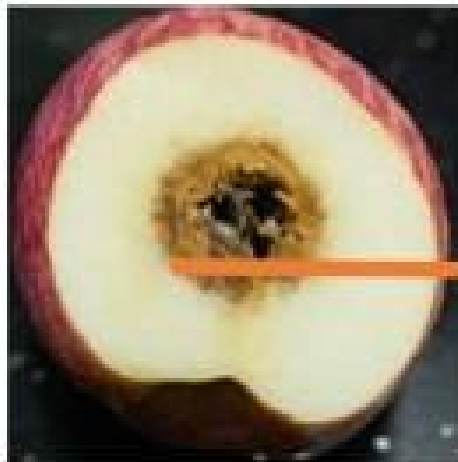
ONE NATION
UNDER
GOD



December 1th, 2021 / 27th Kislev 5782

Three leaders are seen, two were godly men and one was a troublemaker.

Rotten in the
Middle



1. Gaius v.1-8

Beloved 4 times

2. Diotrephes , v.9-11

Conflict-ridden



Rotten in the
Middle

3. Demetrius: v.12

Godly, Truthful

There are two ways to be influenced.

1. Inadvertently.

2. Intentionally.



URGENT

aspects of

The
Believer's
Walk with

Who should you choose to help shape the person you become?

HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR INFLUENCES?

3rd John 1:14

ΤΩΝ ΔΕΝΤ...
ΧΡΟΝΟΣ ΙΚΑΝΟΣ ΔΙΗΛΘΕΝ ΥΛΑ
ΛΙΚΩΡΟΥΝΤΩΝ ΑΣΕΙΩΘΕΙΣ Ο
ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΙΝΑ ΠΡΟΣ ΚΑΤΑΛΥΣΙΝ

ΕΝ ΚΑΤΥΠΩ... ΘΕ ΜΙΣΤΕΥΟΜΕΝΩΝ
ΙΕΡΩΝ ΣΩΩΝΑΤΕΧΕΣ ΘΑΙΜΗΔΕΝ
ΟΣ ΚΑΝΤΑ ΔΕ ΘΥΕΙΝ ΚΑΙ ΑΝΑΛΟΥΝ
ΣΥΝΑΠΤΕΣ ΘΑΙ ΔΕ ΜΗΔΕΝ ΙΚΑΝΗ

1. Choose influences who genuinely
care about you. **V.14**

ΤΕΣ ΕΝ ΤΑΣΙΝ ΨΡΚΩΜΟΤΗΣΑΝ
Ο ΔΕ ΠΡΩΤΟΝ ΜΕΝ ΑΥΤΟΙ
ΝΟΜΟΝ ΕΘΕΤΟ ΜΗΤΕ ΠΡΟΣΚΕΙΝ
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3 John 1:1 KJV

The elder unto the wellbeloved Gaius,
whom I love in the
truth.

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This matter requires

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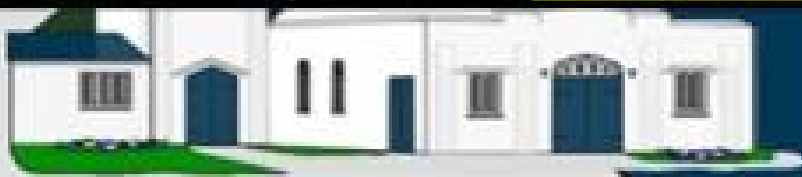
Living

In

Discernment



He was well-beloved (v.1).



3 John 1:2 KJV

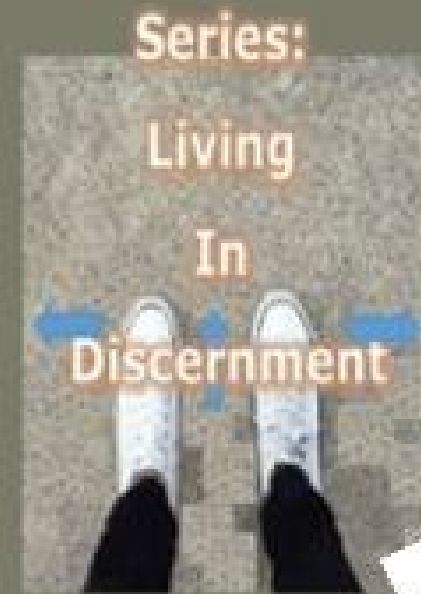
Beloved, I wish
above all things
that thou mayest
prosper and be in
health, even as thy

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This matter requires

**IMMEDIATE
ATTENTION**

2. He prospered
spiritually—despite ill
health (v.2).



3 John 1:3 KJV

For I rejoiced greatly,
when the brethren
came and testified of
the truth that is in
thee, even as thou
walkest in the truth.

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He walked in the truth (v.3-4).

Gaius walked in the truth.

Note two significant facts.

1. **Gaius**, the church leader, had a strong testimony among the believers of the church.
2. **Gaius** brought joy to the hearts of believers.

3 John 1:4 KJV

I have no greater
joy than to hear
that my children
walk in truth.

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He walked in the truth (v.3-4).



HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR INFLUENCES?

3rd John 1:14

ΤΩΝ ΔΕΝΤ...
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...ΘΕ ΜΙΣΤΕΥΟΜΕΝΩΝ
ΙΕΡΩΝ ΣΩΩΝΑΤΕΧΕΣ ΘΑΙΜΗΔΕΝ
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ΣΥΝΑΠΤΕΣ ΘΑΙ ΔΕ ΜΗΔΕΝ ΙΚΑΝ

2. Choose influences who walk
the talk. **V.5-11**

...ΤΕΣ ΕΝ ΤΑΣΙΝ ΩΡΚΩΜΟΤΗΣΑΝ
Ο ΔΕ ΠΡΩΤΟΝ ΜΕΝ ΑΥΤΟΙ
ΝΟΜΟΝ ΕΘΕΤΟ ΜΗΤΕ ΠΡΟΣΚΕΙΝ
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ΠΟΙΜΕΝΑΣ ΕΙΣ ΠΟΛΙΝ



3 John 1:5 KJV

Beloved, thou
doest faithfully
whatsoever thou
doest to the
brethren, and to
strangers;

He helped Christian believers and strangers (v.5-8).

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3 John 1:6 KJV

Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church: whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do

He helped Christian believers and strangers (v.5-8).

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For now, note three significant points.

1. **Gaius** was doing all he could to help the travelling ministers.

He was opening his home and supporting them —so much so that he had a strong testimony in the ministry of hospitality. Note that he even opened his home to strangers in order to reach and grow them in Christ.

2. **Gaius** is to continue to receive and support the travelling ministers **3 John 6b**.

Note: it is said that this is exactly what God Himself would do. **Gaius** is told this is the godly way, the godly thing to do. That is, it is exactly what God would do; therefore, it is what the church leader is to do.

3 John 1:7 KJV

Because that for his
name's sake they
went forth, taking
nothing of the
Gentiles.

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He helped Christian believers and strangers (v.5-8).



3 John 1:8 KJV

We therefore ought
to receive such,
that we might be
fellowhelpers to
the truth.

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He helped Christian believers and strangers (v.5-8).

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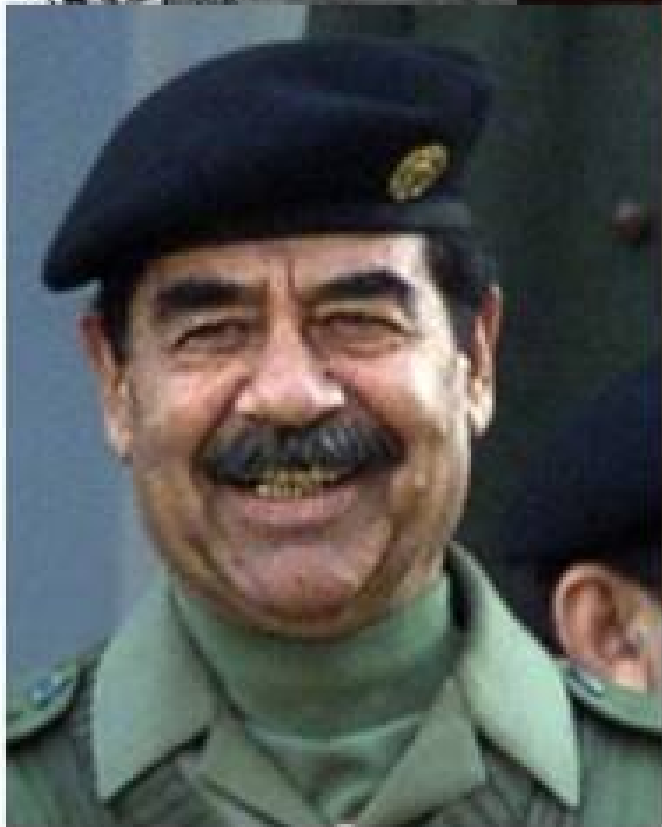
In

Discernment





BAD LEADERS



Six things are said about Diotrephes.

1. **Diotrephes**, the conflict-ridden leader, loved recognition. He loved to be preeminent, to be first in the church **3 John 9**.
2. **Diotrephes**, the conflict-ridden leader, rejected ministerial leadership.
3. **Diotrephes** criticized, talked about, and censored the minister.

Six things are said about Diotrephes.

- 4. Diotrephes** opposed those who stood behind the minister.
- 5. Diotrephes** had to be disciplined. He was destroying the church. He had opposed the minister John so much that some believers had already left the church.
- 6. Diotrephes** was not to be followed. This is a strong warning issued by the minister John: do not follow that which is evil, but follow that which is good.

3 John 1:9 KJV

I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.

The conflict-ridden church leader (v.9-11).

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WHAT WAS THE PROBLEM WITH DIOTREPHESES?

Ministering – Hospitality – Benevolence

1. There were some in the church who did not like the idea of **travelling ministers** visiting and holding meetings in their church.
2. They were opposed to any kind of **minister** or **ministry** that was not settled within the church itself.
3. They did not, therefore, want the **travelling evangelists, missionaries, prophets, and teachers preaching and teaching** in their church.

WHAT WAS THE PROBLEM WITH DIOTREPHESES?

Ministering — Hospitality — Benevolence

They saw no use for their ministry.

They felt...

- that believers could learn all they needed to know from their own ministers and from others in the settled ministry.
- that they did not need help in reaching out to the lost.
- that they could carry out the mission of Christ without the help of travelling ministers

3 John 1:10 KJV

Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.



The conflict-ridden church leader (v.9-11).

3 John 1:11 KJV

Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.

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The conflict-ridden church leader (v.9-11).

What's John saying?

He's saying: Look for those who walk the talk, and do what they do.

Several times in Paul's letters he makes a rather bold statement:

- + Imitate me.
- + Follow my example.
- + Do what I do.

HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR INFLUENCES?

3rd John 1:14

ΤΩΝ ΔΕΝΤ...
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3. Choose Influences with a good reputation V.12-14

ΤΕΣ ΕΝ ΤΑΣΙΝ ΩΡΚΩΜΟΤΗΚΑΝ
Ο ΔΕ ΠΡΩΤΟΝ ΜΕΝ ΑΥΤΟΙ
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3 John 1:12 KJV

Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true.

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The godly leader who stands in the truth (v.12).

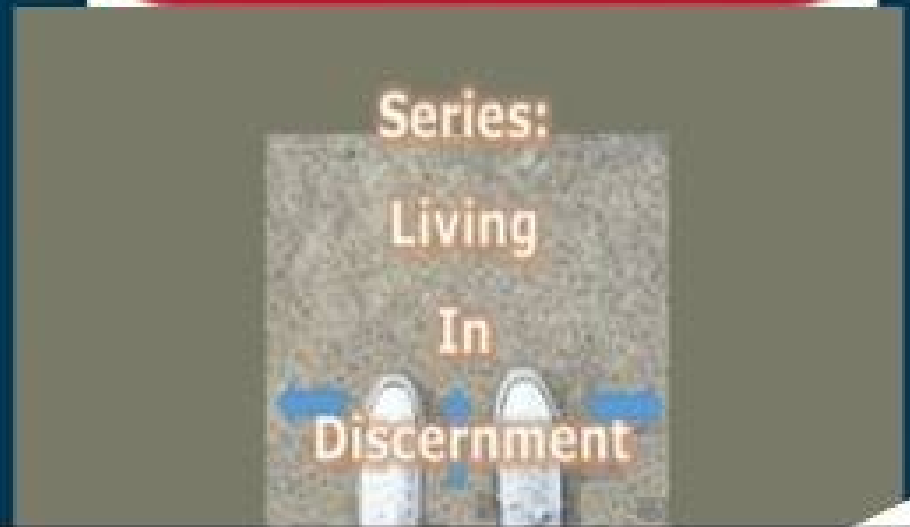


Note three strong facts about Demetrius

1. **Demetrius** had a strong testimony among all believers. Few leaders have a dynamic testimony among all, but this church leader did. He was held in the highest esteem by God's people. They respected him every so highly.
2. **Demetrius** had a strong testimony for walking in the truth .
3. **Demetrius** was highly esteemed by other leaders .

3 John 1:13 KJV

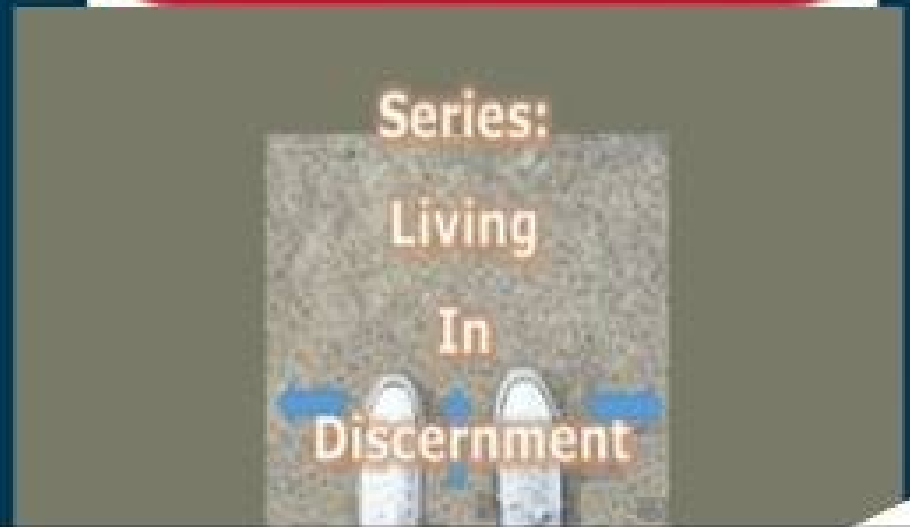
I had many things to write, but I will not with ink and pen write unto thee:



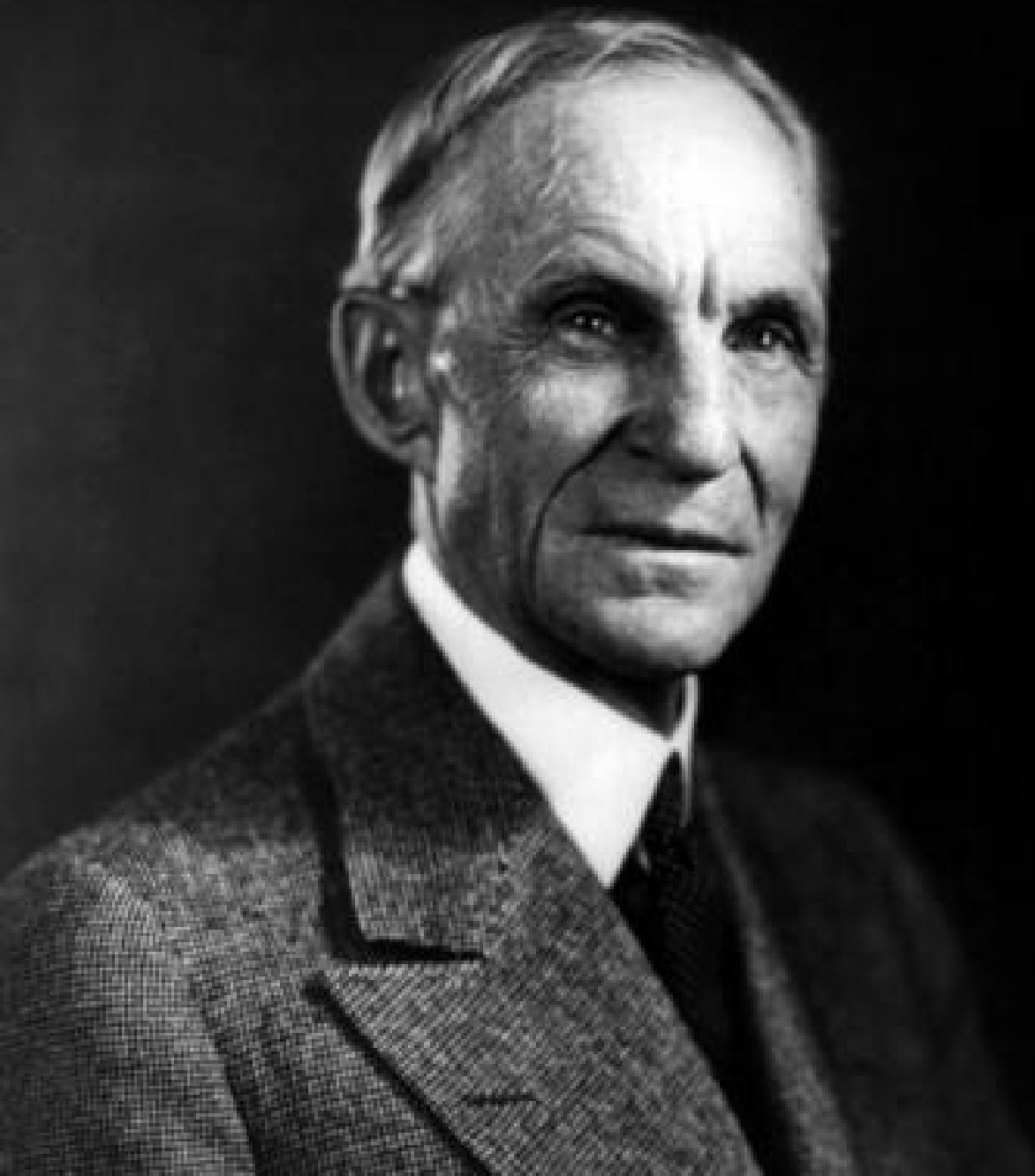
Conclusion: the problem in the church was so severe that the minister John (v.13-14) needed a personal visit.

3 John 1:14 KJV

But I trust I shall shortly see thee, and we shall speak face to face. Peace be to thee. Our friends salute thee. Greet the friends by name.



Conclusion: the problem in the church was so severe that the minister John (v.13-14) needed a personal visit.



**"You can't
build a
reputation on
what you're
going to do."**

Henry Ford

**We will all be influenced by
others.**

?????? The question is:??????

**Will you be unconsciously
influenced or intentionally
influenced?**

Will you just be a product of your surroundings and your culture and the people who happen to be around you in any given moment, or will you choose who you will listen and who will shape your way of thinking and doing?

Choose whom you will allow to speak into your life.

❖ **Look for those who care about you.**

❖ **Look for those who walk the talk.**

❖ **Look for those who have earned a good name.**

**And when you meet people who fit
these criteria, listen to their words
and learn to follow their example.**

*** Basic Principles for Confrontation**

1. Analyze Yourself:

2. ASAP Attention:

**3. Affirm Your Concern for the
Person:**

**4. Articulate the Specific Problem
and Ask Questions:**

*** Basic Principles for Confrontation**

**5. Address the Action or Activity
without Attacking the Person:**

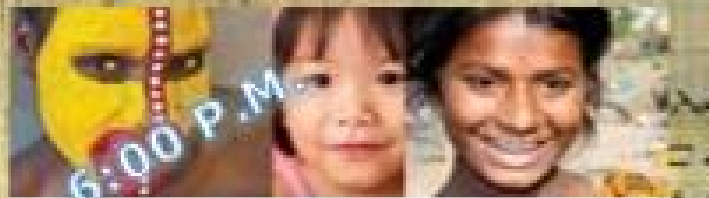
6. Ability:

7. Avoid:

8. Alternatives Should be Provided:

9. Affirmation:

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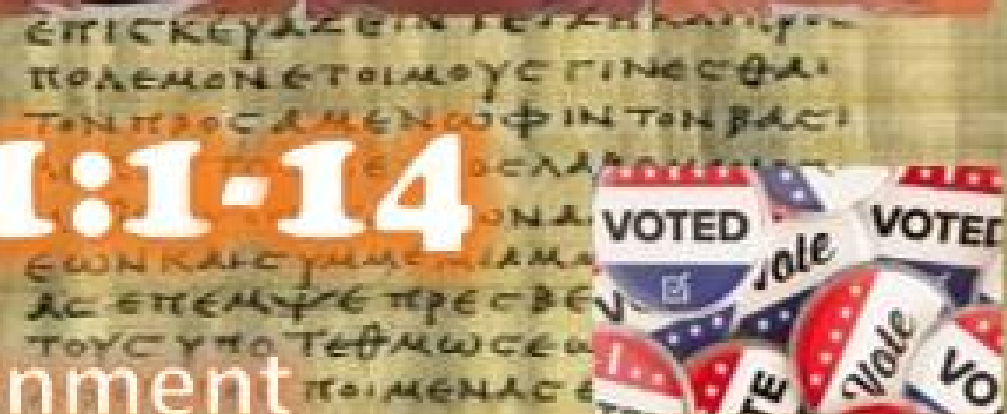
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