***In Times Like These - James, Peter, John, Jude***

**Lesson 23**

**Stick to the Truth**

Read III John

 Memory Work: III John 11

 1.a. Read III John through.

 b. How is it similar to II John?

 2.a. What does John pray for Gaius?

 b. What does his prayer tell us about John?

 c. What does it mean to be spiritually healthy like Gaius?

 d. From verse 3, what had John heard about Gaius?

Evaluate What do you think others would say about your walk?

 3.a. What was John’s response to Gaius’ testimony? Verse 4.

b. The truth was in Gaius and he walked in truth. . .which means?

 4.a. Gaius had labored faithfully for the early believing members and even for strangers. What does

 faithfully mean?

 b. What did strangers say about him? Verse 6.

c. How was Gaius to send these people forth?

 d. What is meant by “in a manner worthy of God?”

 e. What did John urge him to continue doing?

 f. Why is what is mentioned in verses 7, 8 such a vital ministry?

 5.a. How is Diotrephes just the opposite of Gaius? Verses 9,10.

 b. What does it mean to have the preeminence among them?

 c. What was Diotrephes doing verbally and physically? Verses 9,10.

 d. Would you have liked being on a church committee with Diotrephes? Why?

e. Do you think a strong person like Diotrephes could destroy a church? Explain.

Think about Do you show any signs of wanting the preeminence. . .how can you guard against this trait? Romans 12:3.

 f. How could a church guard against those with personalities like Diotrephes?

 g. As a visitor to a church, how would you have felt being put out of the church?

 h. How should a church deal with a problem such as that exhibited by Diotrephes?

 6. What did John exhort the believers to do? Verse 11.

 7.a. How can “the truth” speak well of someone? Verse 12.

Evaluate Which is more dangerous to churches, false teachers or false pride? Explain.

 b. What was Demetrius’ testimony?

 c. How can you develop a good and true testimony?

 d. Why is having a good testimony or reputation critical for believers. . .do you guard yours?