

3 John 1-4

Where Does That Rank with You?

"I have left orders to be awakened at any time during national emergency, even if I'm in a cabinet meeting." — Ronald Reagan

"There is no limit to the amount of good you can do if you don't care who gets the credit." — Ronald Reagan

1. Love in the Truth 1

A. True Friendship Expressed

"So the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's companions in travel." -Acts 19:29 ESV

"After the uproar ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and after encouraging them, he said farewell and departed for Macedonia. When he had gone through those regions and had given them much encouragement, he came to Greece. There he spent three months, and when a plot was made against him by the Jews as he was about to set sail for Syria, he decided to return through Macedonia. Sopater the Berean, son of Pyrrhus, accompanied him; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy; and the Asians, Tychicus and Trophimus. These went on ahead and were waiting for us at Troas, but we sailed away from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and in five days we came to them at Troas, where we stayed for seven days." -Acts 20:1-6 ESV

"Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus, greet you." -Romans 16:23 ESV

"I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name." 1 Corinthians 1:14-15 ESV

B. Love in Truth

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14 ESV

"For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." -John 1:17 ESV

"But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God." -John 3:21 ESV

"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." John 4:24 ESV

"So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." -John 8:31-32 ESV

"Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." -John 14:6 ESV

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." 1 John 1:8 ESV

"I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth." -1 John 2:21 ESV

"Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything." -1 John 3:18-20 ESV

"The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father." -2 John 1:1-4 ESV

2. A Testimony 2, 3

A. Deeper Than a Wish 2

"I Pray"

B. "Going Well" 2

"On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, **as he may prosper**, so that there will be no collecting when I come." -1 Corinthians 16:2 ESV

"He may have prospered in"

"How is it with your soul?" - The Methodist Class Meeting

““No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” -Matthew 6:24 ESV

“He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.” -Ecclesiastes 5:10 ESV

“And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”” -Luke 12:15 ESV

“Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.” -Proverbs 11:28 ESV

“But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.”
1 Timothy 6:6-10 ESV

“As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. **They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.**” -1 Timothy 6:17-19 ESV

“And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”” -Mark 8:34-38 ESV

C. Celebrating for Someone’s Testimony

Your truth is grounded in the The Truth

Your reality is grounded in the Ultimate Reality of God.

”Walking” = “Living”

3. No Greater Joy 4

A. What Is Your Greatest Joy?

B. How Do We Walk in the Truth?

“So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”” -John 8:31-32 ESV

We must immerse ourselves in the truth

1. Read the word everyday. Listen to the word everyday.
2. Pray everyday
3. Meet with a group of Christians in community regularly
4. Make Everyday Decisions Conditioned by the Truth of Jesus

Reflection: How is your soul prospering? How is the soul of those you care about most prospering?

Follow UP in the Word through the Week...

Monday: John 8:31-32. How do you abide in the “word” Jesus refers to here? Do you find the freedom He promises?

Tuesday: 1 John 3:18-20. Have you had to make a major decision lately? How can this passage reassure you that God’s truth will prevail in these everyday decisions that we make?

Wednesday: Matthew 6:24. What is the challenge of this verse? How do you apply this to your finances?

Thursday: Ecclesiastes 5:10. How have you seen this play out in real life? What safeguards are in your life to be sure that this does not take place?

Friday: 1 Timothy 6:6-10. Define “contentment” as Paul does here? Rate your life today in regard to this kind of contentment?

Saturday: Mark 8:34-38. According to Jesus, what is the great danger in this passage? How do we see that being headed off?