

JOURNEY WITH JOHN



2 & 3 JOHN

SERMON OUTLINES
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Part #1 – Prepared to Persevere

2 John 1-6

Sermon Series Summary

2 & 3 John are the shortest letters in the New Testament and often they are some of the most overlooked letters due to their brief content. As we study through these letters we soon observe that the brief content holds great relevance for modern day Christians. We observe that John emphasizes the themes of walking in truth, walking love, standing for your faith in the midst of persecution, and equipping yourself with discernment. All of these themes point to the need for each Christian to “Persevere in the Faith” in a culture that is striving to weaken the faith, weaken the Gospel, and deter you from following the Lord. Join us as we “Journey With John and Persevere in the Faith.”

Series Theme Passage

3 John 11 – Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.

Main Passage

2 John 1-6 (ESV) – ¹ 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, ² because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever: ³ Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. ⁴ I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father. ⁵ And now I ask you, dear lady – not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning – that we love one another. ⁶ And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it.

Big Idea – God's Word Equips You to Persevere in Faith and Life

Three Steps to Prepare You to Persevere

Step #1 – Know Truth, Love Truth, and Remain in Truth

2 John 1-2 (ESV) – ¹ 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, ² because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us forever...

- **Key Point** – The key point that we discover in the first step examines your relationship with the nature of God's truth. Many times we discover God's truth but fail to love the truth because it brings conviction. If we fail to love truth then we will fail to remain in truth. Guard your heart, mind, and soul by choosing to know, love, and remain in God's truth.

Step #2 – Live by God's Standard and You Will Discover Joy and Blessing

2 John 3-4 (ESV) – ³ Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love. ⁴ I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we were commanded by the Father.

- **Key Point** – The key point that we discover in the second step examines the importance for a believer to live by God's standard in order to discover the joy and blessing of the Lord. If you choose to live by any other standard then you will not experience the fullness of God's blessing and joy for your life.

Step #3 – Grow in Your Love for the Lord and You Will Grow in Your Commitment to Him

2 John 5-6 (ESV) – ⁵ And now I ask you, dear lady – not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning – that we love one another. ⁶ And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it.

- **Key Point** – The key point that we discover in the final step examines the importance of continually growing in your love for the Lord in order to grow in your commitment to Him. Authentic love for the Lord brings about authentic commitment.

Memory Verse

2 John 6 (ESV) – And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, so that you should walk in it.

Challenge

Remind yourself that your responsibility, before the Lord, is to apply the truths you have discovered in the Word of God. As you reflect on this message, help others discover more about Jesus this week by...

- Inviting others to a Sunday Morning Service
- Handing out one of the information booklets from the front foyer
- Asking others how you could pray for them