

JOURNEY WITH JOHN



2 & 3 JOHN

SERMON OUTLINES
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Poised to Persevere

2 John 7-13

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 7-13 (ESV) – ⁷ For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist. ⁸ Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward. ⁹ Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. ¹⁰ If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting, ¹¹ for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works. ¹² Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete. ¹³ The children of your elect sister greet you.

Big Idea – God’s Word Prepares You to Persevere Over Problematic People

Three Lessons Every Christian Must Learn to Persevere

Lesson #1 – You Must Learn God’s Truth to Identify Deceivers

2 John 7-8 (ESV) – ⁷ For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist. ⁸ Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.

- **Key Point** – The key point that we discover in the first lesson is that in order to identify deceivers, false teachers, and those who manipulate the Word of God then you must learn God’s truth. This requires careful study of God’s Word.

Lesson #2 – You Must Equip Yourself With God’s Truth to Stand Against False Teachers

2 John 9-11 (ESV) – ⁹ Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. ¹⁰ If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house or give him any greeting, ¹¹ for whoever greets him takes part in his wicked works.

- **Key Point** – The key point that we discover in the second lesson illustrates the fact that you must equip yourself with God’s truth in order to stand against false teachers and false doctrine. The truth of God’s Word provides the solid foundation upon which you must stand.

Lesson #3 – You Must Live to Love God and Encourage One Another

2 John 12-13 (ESV) – ¹²Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete. ¹³The children of your elect sister greet you.

- **Key Point** – The key point that we discover in the final lesson draws out the importance of the two greatest commandments for the life of the Christian. If you want to be a success in the eyes of the Lord then you must “Love God with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength” and “Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37-39).

Memory Verse

2 John 8 (ESV) – Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.

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