

“The Generosity of the Beloved”  
3 John 1:5-8

- Live like you are Beloved by God so that others will feel beloved by you (Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 8:38-39; Psalm 73:23-26; Hebrews 13:20-21).
- Gaius was a visible example of Christianity/to be beloved (1 Timothy 3:1-7).
  - Gaius walked according to the Word (1:3).
  - Gaius loved and was loved according to the Word (1:1).
  - Gaius was faithfully generous according to the Word because God has been so generous to us in Christ (1:5).
    - Genuine saving faith is always accompanied by good works/obedience to the Word of God (1 John 3:16-18; James 2:14-16; Ephesians 2:10).  
*“If faith doesn’t do through you what has been done in you then it may be dead.”*
- “Who testified of your love before the church....”
  - Christian generosity is an act of love that glorifies God by the enabling of the gospel to be spread (2 Corinthians 8:1-4; Philippians 4:14-18).
- “You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God....”
  - “You will do well” is like asking someone please. It is always a blessing to care for our brothers in Christ; it is evidence that we are in Christ (1 John 4:20-21).
  - We have a Christian responsibility towards our brothers and sisters in Christ that are suffering, and then those who are suffering in the world. The scripture makes it clear that we love the brotherhood by providing for their needs and we love the world by giving them the gospel (Galatians 6:9-10; 1 John 3:16-18; James 2:14-17; John 13:34-35; Acts 6:1-7).
  - “In a manner worthy to God....”
    - The church has the responsibility to meet the needs of both pastors, missionaries, as well as our suffering brothers and sisters in Christ (Titus 3:13-14). The church has been called to take care of faithful servants of Christ in a manner worthy of God or to give as God gives (freely and generously).
    - A faithful servant....
      - does what they do for the glory of God, that is to proclaim the gospel in both word and deed (1 Corinthians 10:31-33).
      - is reliant on the church for them to give their lives to the gospel. The world (Gentiles) will never support the spreading of the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:11 & 14; 1 Timothy 5:17-19).
      - joins others in their work. We are told “not to take part in wicked works” (2 John 1:11) but instead to be “fellow workers for the truth.” This means we are taking part in the work they are doing by financially supporting them.
- We will be rewarded for all of our work in Christ, which includes generosity.
  - Work in Christ (Colossians 3:23-24; Romans 2:6 & 11; Revelation 22:12; Psalm 19:11; Luke 6:35).
  - We have been called to be generous in Christ (Hebrews 13:16; 2 Corinthians 9:10-11; Acts 20:35; Matthew 6:20-21; 1 Timothy 6:18-19).

**Worship:** God Omniscient, God All Knowing (Matt Boswell)      He Will Hold Me Fast (Norton Hall Band)

**Service Times:**Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays:(In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7