

1.

## ANOTHER POSTCARD FROM A PASTOR

3 John

Introduction. \_\_\_\_\_

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### I. **FIRST, NOTE A PRACTICING CHRISTIAN NAMED GAIUS WHO IS DELIGHTFUL (3 John 1-8).**

- A. First, notice the *description* of Gaius (1b) “... *unto the well-beloved* . . .”
- B. Secondly, note John’s *desire* for Gaius (2).
- C. Thirdly, consider John’s *delight* in Gaius (verses 3-4).
- D. Fourthly, think about Gaius’ *diligence* (verses 5-7).
  - 1. First, his diligence is referred to as having a *reputable* faith (verse 5a).
  - 2. Secondly, his diligence is reflected by his having a *reliable* love (verse 6a).
    - a. Notice how his reliable love is *encouraged* (verse 6a).
    - b. Note, too how his reliable love is *exemplified* (verse 6b) “. . . *after a godly sort* . . .”

2.

- E. Fifthly, consider the \_\_\_\_\_ on Gaius (verse 8).
  - 1. First, note how supporting world evangelism involves a \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 8a).
  - 2. Secondly, notice how supporting world evangelism includes a \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 8b).

**APPLICATION:** Gaius’s selfless life brings out four principles that are produced in such a life:

- 1. First, we \_\_\_\_\_ in our own souls (verse 2).
- 2. Secondly, we are to \_\_\_\_\_ the truth (verse 5-6).
- 3. Thirdly, we are to \_\_\_\_\_ in the ministry of others (verse 8).
- 4. Fourthly, we \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord (verse 11).

### II. **SECONDLY, NOTICE A \_\_\_\_\_ CHRISTIAN NAMED DIOTREPES WHO IS \_\_\_\_\_ (3 John 9-11).**

- A. First, notice his personal \_\_\_\_\_ (vss. 9-10).
  - 1. First, his personal ambition caused his emotions to become \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 9a).
  - 2. Secondly, his personal ambition caused his mind to become \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 9b-10a).

3.

3. Thirdly, his personal ambition caused his will to be \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 10b).

B. Secondly, consider some \_\_\_\_\_ advice (verse 11).

1. First, we have a principle to \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 11a).

2. Secondly, we have a proverb to \_\_\_\_\_ (11b).

**APPLICATION:** The spirit of Diotrephes can be in all of us. This brings up four questions to consider:

1. **Am I attending church for what it can do for \_\_\_\_\_?**
2. **Am I willing to serve in this church even if no one recognizes \_\_\_\_\_, or notices \_\_\_\_\_?**
3. **Am I teachable when challenged or corrected in the teaching and preaching with the way I think or act?**
4. **Do I always have to be \_\_\_\_\_, first and in front?**

**III. THIRDLY, CONSIDER A \_\_\_\_\_ CHRISTIAN NAMED DEMETRIUS WHO IS \_\_\_\_\_ (3 John 12).**

4.

A. First, note the testimony \_\_\_\_\_ him—his reliability (12a).

B. Secondly, notice the truth \_\_\_\_\_ him (12b).

C. Thirdly, consider how a tribute *confirmed* him (12c).

**IV. FOURTHLY, THINK ABOUT A \_\_\_\_\_ CHRISTIAN LIKE JOHN WHO IS \_\_\_\_\_ (3 John 13-14).**

A. First, this partisan Christian had much to \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 13).

B. Secondly, this devoted Christian was coming their \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 14).

Notice how he ends the letter with encouragement:

1. First, his encouragement comes in the form of personal \_\_\_\_\_ in them (verse 14a).

2. Secondly, his encouragement comes in the form of a special \_\_\_\_\_ in them (verse 14b).