

# Recognize and Imitate Good

This short little book of 3 John uses few words but gives us plenty to discuss and learn. It provides guidance for helping us discern which Christian leaders are worth following and which are not. It expounds on the spiritual gift of hospitality and broadens our understanding of what it means to walk in the truth.

**AWARENESS** Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How do you define hospitality? Does it relate to your faith? If so, how? If not, why not?
- What do you think it means and looks like to “walk in the truth”?



**LISTEN TO THE EPISODE:** [Recognize and Imitate Good](#)

**READ** [3 John](#)

**REFLECTION** After listening, consider the following questions:

- Who in your life or faith community demonstrates the spiritual gift of hospitality? What observations or experiences lead you to this conclusion?
- Think about the relationship between hospitality and sacrificial love, hospitality and pride, hospitality and humility? How is hospitality hindered and helped by each?
- Why is orthopraxis (right practice) just as important as orthodoxy (right teaching)? Why are truth and love important for BOTH orthopraxis and orthodoxy?
- What are you doing to ensure you continue to mature in your faith according to the truth? In what ways are you going deeper into the truth of the gospel and staying in step with the Holy Spirit?

**RELATED PASSAGES** for further study

[1 Peter 4:8-11](#), [Romans 12:9-13](#), [John 13:34-35](#), [Mark 10:35-45](#), [John 16:12-14](#)

## CONCLUSION

In his commentary *The Early Christian Letters for Everyone*, N.T. Wright offers this reflection on truth in 3 John:

“Truth, as always in John, is not simply a fact or a quality. It is an energy, a power, the living and dynamic quality that transforms people, communities and ultimately the world. We are privileged to be caught up in the work of Truth, turning our misguided and often wicked world into a place where once again the creator God is honoured and glorified.”

Write down where you see evidence of this dynamic, transforming truth around you. Offer prayers of

thanksgiving and ask God for his wisdom and for guidance in the opportunities where he's calling you to be caught up in the work of truth through service.

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**<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/recognize-and-imitate-good>**

*Printed on April 4, 2025*

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