

## **3<sup>rd</sup> John**

### ***How Good Leaders Go Bad***

#### **The Key Players & Back Story**

3 John 1:1-14

- ✓ John:
- ✓ Gaius:
- ✓ Diotrephes:
- ✓ Demetrius:

#### **John's Tweet:**

3 John 1:1-14

#### **How Good Leaders Go Bad**

##### ***Five Traits To Watch Out For***

3 John 1:9-11/ 1 Corinthians 13:1-7/ Matthew 7:15-20

##### **1) A Big Ego**

3 John 1:9/ Matthew 23:1-2/ Matthew 20:20-28  
Philippians 2:3-9 & 1 Timothy 3:1/ 1 Peter 5:1-6

##### **2) Isolation**

3 John 1:9/ Proverbs 27:17/ Proverbs 12:15

##### **3) Slander**

3 John 1:10/ James 4:11-12/ Galatians 6:1/ Titus 3:1-10/ 2 Corinthians 12:20

##### **4) An Us/Them mentality**

3 John 1:10/ Philippians 1:15-18 & Mark 9:38-40/ Ephesians 4:1-3/ Revelation 12:10

##### **5) An Iron Fist**

3 John 1:10/ 1 Peter 5:3/ 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 & Acts 17:11

## Food for Thought

For the week of July 8, 2012

(Questions and Scriptures for further personal study)

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1. In 3 John 1:9, John specifically points out a church leader named Diotrephes as someone who "loves to be first." While Diotrephes was in ministry, it was obvious his motive was for his own benefit. Jesus gave us a completely different example of what it means to be a leader, by putting other's first. Read the following verses and write down what it takes to be a great leader in God's kingdom.

### **3 John 1:9**

I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first, will have nothing to do with us. [NIV]

### **Mark 9:35**

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." [NIV]

### **Mark 10:43-44**

Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, [44] and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. [NIV]

### **Luke 22:26**

But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. [NIV]

Take a moment and evaluate the various contexts where you may have leadership influence (work, school, home, friendships). Do you have any tendencies that resemble Diotrephes' leadership style? How about Jesus' leadership style?

2. God asks us to serve others for a very specific purpose. What does 1 Corinthians 9:19 tell us about God's purpose for us in being godly leaders and serving others?

### **1 Corinthians 9:19**

Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. [NIV]

3. It can be tempting to serve God to receive praise or credit for our actions, and we often are less motivated to be a servant when we're treated like one. God wants us to serve not for how it makes us look or for what we get out of it, but to glorify him through our service to others. Read the following verses and write down the different ways we can glorify God in our service to others.

**Matthew 5:16**

In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. [NIV]

**John 15:8**

This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. [NIV]

**1 Peter 2:12**

Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. [NIV]