

## III JOHN

- I. What is a reputation?
  - A. Examples of Gaius and Demetrius - commended for their actions that builds up the church
  - B. Example of Diotrefes - confronted for his actions that harms the church
- II. Why is a reputation important?
  - A. Reflects purpose - John 17, Ephesians 3:20 & 21, Isaiah 26:7 & 8
  - B. Reflects priorities - Acts 1:8, I John 5:10 - 12
  - C. Reflects a pattern - John 17, I John, I John 5:21
- III. Whose reputation matters?

"The eagle-eye world acts as a policeman for the church...It becomes the watch-dog over the sheep, barking furiously as soon as one goes astray...Be careful, be careful of your private lives...and I believe your public lives will be sure to be right. Remember that it is upon your public life that the verdict of the world will very much depend." Charles Spurgeon (The Parent's and Pastor's Joy)

### Group Discussion Questions

1. Can it become dangerous to become too concerned with reputation? Why?
2. Who in your life are you able to commend for their spiritual health?
3. When confronting sin, in what ways is III John an example of how to do this?
4. Until we can see all of our family and friends face to face, how can we stay closely connected?