## Connect: 30-45 min

Consider sharing a meal together, discussing the highs/lows of the week or any celebrations/hard things that happened last week, follow up from prayer requests.

<u>A Reminder</u>: If you are looking for more in-depth study to do during the week before the sermon, this is a free 12-week course through 123 John:

https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/knowing-the-bible-1-3-john/#week-1-overview

## **Discuss: Scripture/Sermon Discussion (30-45 mins)**

- 1. Reread this week's passage, 3 John. Have someone summarize the sermon in 1-3 minutes. What stood out? What was challenging or Encouraging?
- 2. In verse 2, John prayed that Gaius' physical health would match his spiritual health, for Gaius was thriving spiritually. What would happen if God blessed you physically to the same degree as your spiritual health? Can you identify places in your spiritual health you'd like to grow? How can your life group help come alongside you in those places?
- 3. In verse 4, why is John so joyful in Gaius's faithfulness? What are the sources of your joy? Can you share about a time you experienced joy through another Christian's fruitfulness? Is it connected to the spiritual fruitfulness of other Christians?
- 4. Read verse 8. It is the church's privilege and responsibility to support other faithful missionaries locally and globally who are on the front lines. Where do you see a need within your local church that you can come alongside to be a supply line to those on the front line?
- 5. Pause for Reflection. Of the three men named in 3 John, (Gaius, Diotrephes, or Demetrius) who would others say you most identify with and why?
- 6. Many of YOU have experienced church hurt and/or suffered under selfish, controlling, or otherwise ungodly church leadership. ReGen is a great place to work through those hurts. You can find more info here > Regen? Have you worked through church hurt in ReGen or other places? What was that experience like for you?

Closing Practice: Serving Faithfully (Putting the Gospel on Display) Matthew 5:16 (NASB95) - 16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." How did reflecting on the different types of men in this passage, one who reflects the light of Christ, the other who reflects the darkness, challenge you to shine your light to those around you? What are some ways you can be a front-line gospel minister, if not overseas, to your neighbor or coworkers in your life presently?