

apptoteach.org

THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

3 John 1-8
Lesson #30
Hospitality
07/31/2022

3 John Christian hospitality

A positive example	A negative example
1-8	9-14

We are salt and light in the way we:
- respond to circumstances and
- in the way we treat each other.

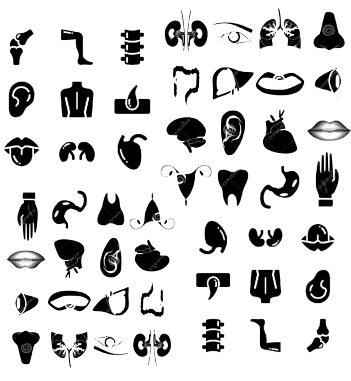
1

Three challenges for the church:

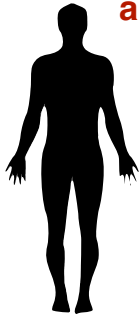
1. It often is **not** a community.
2. It fails to see the **necessity** of being a community.
3. It does not **understand** the foundation of community.

2

The church is not the **Body Parts of Christ.**



The church is the **Body of Christ but only when the pieces function as attached to one another and the head.**



3

1 John 3:24

“And the one who keeps His commandments **abides in Him, and He in him.** And we know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.”



Body
(1 Cor. 12:27)





Branches
(John 15:1-16)



Bride
(Eph. 5:22-32)



Building
(1 Peter 2:4-7)

4

Many of our congregations are like the 1st century church in some unattractive ways.

1 Corinthians 3

“1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to **men of flesh, as to babes in Christ.** 2 I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, 3 for you are still fleshly. **For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?** 4 For when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” **are you not mere men?**”

It is time to grow up.

5

The 21st century "church"

Catholicism - 1.2 billion

- Roman Catholic Church (Latin Rite) - 1,129.9 million
- Eastern Catholic Churches (Eastern Rite) - 17.1 million
 - Alexandrian
 - Ethiopian Catholic Church - 0.21 million
 - Coptic Catholic Church - 0.17 million
 - Antiochian (Antiochene or West Syrian)
 - Maronite Catholic Church - 3.1 million
 - Syro-Malankara Catholic Church - 0.5 million
 - Syriac Catholic Church - 0.17 million
 - Armenian
 - Armenian Catholic Church - 0.54 million
 - Chaldean (Eastern Syrian)
 - Syro-Malabar Catholic Church - 4.0 million
 - Chaldean Catholic Church - 0.65 million
- Byzantine (Constantinopolitan)
 - Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church - 4.3 million
 - Melkite Greek Catholic Church - 1.6 million
 - Romanian Church United with Rome, Greek-Catholic - 0.8 million
 - Ruthenian Catholic Church - 0.65 million
 - Slovak Greek Catholic Church - 0.37 million
 - Hungarian Greek Catholic Church - 0.29 million
 - Italo-Greek Catholic Church - 0.07 million
 - Croatian Greek Catholic Church - 0.06 million
 - Belarusian Greek Catholic Church - 0.01 million
- Bulgarian Greek Catholic Church - 0.01 million
- Georgian Byzantine Catholic Church - 0.01 million
- Macedonian Greek Catholic Church - 0.01 million
- Albanian Greek-Catholic Church - 0.01 million
- Greek Byzantine Catholic Church - 0.01 million
- Russian Catholic Church - 0.01 million
- Breakaway Catholic Churches - 28 million
 - Apostolic Catholic Church - 5 million
 - Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association - 4 million
 - Philippine Independent Church - 3 million
 - Brazilian Catholic Apostolic Church - 1 million
 - Old Catholic Church - 0.6 million
 - Mariavite Church - 0.03 million
 - Liberal Catholic Church - NA

6

Protestantism - 670 million

- Baptist churches - 105 million
 - Southern Baptist Convention - 16.3 million
 - National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. - 7.5 million
 - National Baptist Convention of America, Inc. - 5 million
 - Nigerian Baptist Convention - 3 million
 - Progressive National Baptist Convention - 2.5 million
 - American Baptist Churches USA - 1.4 million
 - Brazilian Baptist Convention - 1.4 million
 - Baptist Bible Fellowship International - 1.2 million
 - Myanmar Baptist Convention - 1.1 million
 - Baptist Community of the Congo River - 1 million
 - National Baptist Convention, Brazil - 1 million
 - National Primitive Baptist Convention of the U.S.A. - 1 million
 - National Missionary Baptist Convention of America - 1 million
 - Samavesam of Telugu Baptist Churches - 0.8 million
 - Baptist Convention of Kenya - 0.7 million
 - Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists of Russia - 0.6 million
- Methodism - 75 million
 - United Methodist Church - 12 million
 - African Methodist Episcopal Church - 3 million
 - Methodist Church of Great Britain - NA
 - Methodist Church Nigeria - 2.9 million
 - African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church - 1.5 million
 - Church of the Nazarene - 1.9 million
 - Methodist Church of Southern Africa - 1.7 million
 - Korean Methodist Church - 1.5 million
 - United Methodist Church of Ivory Coast - 1.5 million
 - Christian Methodist Episcopal Church - 0.9 million
 - Methodist Church Ghana - 0.8 million
 - Free Methodist Church - 0.7 million
 - Primitive Methodist Church - NA
 - Chinese Methodist Church in Australia - NA
 - Free Wesleyan Church - NA
 - Free Methodist Church in Canada - NA
 - Methodist Church in India - 0.6 million
 - Evangelical Methodist Church - NA
 - Wesleyan Church - NA
 - Wesleyan Methodist Church-Allegheny Conference - NA
 - Christ's Sanctified Holy Church - NA
- Congregationalism - 5 million
 - United Church of Christ - 1.2 million
 - Evangelical Congregational Church in Angola - 0.9 million
 - United Congregational Church of Southern Africa - 0.5 million
- Quakers - 0.4 million
- Waldensians - 0.05 million
- Anabaptism and Free churches - 5 million
 - Schwarzenau Brethren/German Baptist groups - 1.5 million
 - Mennonites - 1.5 million
 - Plymouth Brethren - 1 million
 - Moravians - 0.7 million
 - Amish - 0.2 million
 - Hutterites - 0.2 million

- Lutheranism - 87 million
 - Evangelical Church in Germany - 26.9 million
 - Church of Sweden - 6.9 million
 - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - 4.8 million
 - Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus - 4.7 million
 - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania - 4.6 million
 - Danish National Church - 4.5 million
 - Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland - 4.3 million
 - Batak Christian Protestant Church - 4 million
 - Church of Norway - 3.9 million
 - Malagasy Lutheran Church - 3 million
 - Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod - 2.4 million
 - The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria - 1.7 million
 - United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India - 1.5 million
 - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea - 0.9 million
 - Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church - 0.8 million
 - United Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil - 0.7 million
 - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia - 0.6 million
 - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa - 0.6 million
- Presbyterianism - 40 million
 - Presbyterian Church of East Africa - 4 million
 - Presbyterian Church of Africa - 3.4 million
 - Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) - 3.0 million
 - United Church of Canada - 2.5 million
 - Uniting Church in Australia - NA
 - Presbyterian Community of Congo - 2.5 million
 - Presbyterian Church of Korea - 2.4 million
 - Presbyterian Church of Cameroon - 1.8 million
 - Church of Scotland - 1.1 million
 - Presbyterian Church of the Sudan - 1 million
 - Presbyterian Church in Cameroon - 0.7 million
 - Presbyterian Church of Brazil - 0.7 million
 - Presbyterian Church of Ghana - 0.6 million
 - Presbyterian Church of Nigeria - 0.5 million
 - Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa - 0.5 million
 - Presbyterian Church in America - 0.3 million
- Continental Reformed churches - 30 million
 - Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar - 3.5 million
 - United Church of Zambia - 3.0 million
 - Protestant Church in the Netherlands - 2.5 million
 - Swiss Reformed Church - 2.4 million
 - Evangelical Church of Cameroon - 2 million
 - Protestant Evangelical Church in Timor - 2 million
 - Christian Evangelical Church in Minahasa - 0.7 million
 - United Church in Papua New Guinea - 0.6 million
 - United Church of Christ in the Philippines - 0.6 million
 - Protestant Church in Western Indonesia - 0.6 million
 - Evangelical Christian Church in Tanah Papua - 0.6 million
 - Protestant Church in the Moluccas - 0.6 million
 - Reformed Church in Hungary - 0.6 million
 - Reformed Church in Romania - 0.6 million
 - Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa - 0.5 million
- Pentecostalism - 130 million
 - Assemblies of God - 60 million
 - New Apostolic Church - 11 million
 - International Circle of Faith - 11 million
 - The Pentecostal Mission - 10 million
 - Church of God (Cleveland) - 9 million
 - International Church of the Foursquare Gospel - 8 million
 - Church of God in Christ - 6 million
 - Apostolic Church - 5.5 million
 - Christian Congregation of Brazil - 2.5 million
 - Universal Church of the Kingdom of God - 2 million
 - Church of God of Prophecy - 1 million
 - God is Love Pentecostal Church - 0.8 million
 - Indian Pentecostal Church of God - NA

- Non-denominational evangelicalism - 80 million
 - Galaxy Chapel - 25 million
 - Born Again Movement - 20 million
 - Association of Vineyard Churches - 15 million
 - New Life Fellowship - 10 million
 - True Jesus Church - 2.5 million
 - Charismatic Episcopal Church - NA
- African initiated churches - 40 million
 - Zion Christian Church - 15 million
 - Eternal Sacred Order of Cherubim and Seraphim - 10 million
 - Kimbanguist Church - 5.5 million
 - Church of the Lord (Aladura) - 3.6 million
 - Council of African Instituted Churches - 3 million
 - Church of Christ Light of the Holy Spirit - 1.4 million
 - African Church of the Holy Spirit - 0.7 million
 - African Israel/Ninveh Church
- Seventh-day Adventist Church - 17 million
- Restoration Movement - 7 million
 - Churches of Christ - 5 million
 - Christian Churches and Churches of Christ - 1.1 million
 - Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) - 0.7 million
- Nontrinitarianism - 27.5 million
 - Latter Day Saint movement (Mormonism) - 14.1 million
 - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - 13.8 million
 - Community of Christ - 0.25 million
 - Jehovah's Witnesses - 7.5 million
 - Iglesia ni Cristo - 6 million
 - Oneness Pentecostalism - 6 million
 - United Pentecostal Church International - 4 million
 - Pentecostal Assemblies of the World - 1.5 million
 - Church of Christ, Scientist - 0.4 million
 - Friends of Man - 0.07 million
 - Christadelphians - 0.05 million
- Anglicanism - 82 million
 - Anglican Communion - 80 million
 - Church of Nigeria - 18 million
 - Church of England - 13.4 million
 - Church of Uganda - 8.8 million
 - Church of South India - 3.8 million
 - Anglican Church of Australia - 3.7 million
 - Episcopal Church in the Philippines - 3.0 million
 - Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia - 2.5 million
 - Anglican Church of Tanzania - 2.5 million
 - Anglican Church of Southern Africa - 2.4 million
 - Episcopal Church of the United States - 2.2 million
 - Anglican Church of Canada - 2.0 million
 - Anglican Church of Kenya - 1.5 million
 - Church of North India - 1.3 million
 - Church of the Province of Rwanda - 1 million
 - Church of Pakistan - 0.8 million
 - Anglican Church of Burundi - 0.8 million
 - Church of the Province of Central Africa - 0.6 million
 - Church of Christ in Congo-Anglican Community of Congo - 0.5 million
 - Scottish Episcopal Church - 0.4 million
 - Church of Ireland - 0.4 million
 - Continuing Anglican movement - 1.5 million
 - Traditional Anglican Communion - 0.5 million
 - Anglican Church in North America - 0.1 million
 - African Orthodox Church - NA
- Restorationist - 1 million
 - Assyrian Church of the East - 0.5 million
 - Ancient Church of the East - 0.3 million

Eastern Orthodoxy - 210 million

- Autocephalous churches
 - Russian Orthodox Church - 125 million
 - Romanian Orthodox Church - 19 million
 - Serbian Orthodox Church - 15 million
 - Church of Greece - 11 million
 - Bulgarian Orthodox Church - 10 million
 - Georgian Orthodox Church - 5 million
 - Greek Orthodox Church of Constantinople - 3.5 million
 - Greek Orthodox Church of Antioch - 2.5 million
 - Greek Orthodox Church of Alexandria - 1.5 million
 - Orthodox Church in America - 1.2 million
 - Polish Orthodox Church - 1 million
 - Albanian Orthodox Church - 0.8 million
 - Cypriot Orthodox Church - 0.7 million
 - Greek Orthodox Church of Jerusalem - 0.14 million
 - Czech and Slovak Orthodox Church - 0.07 million
- Autonomous churches
 - Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) - 7.2 million
 - Moldovan Orthodox Church - 3.2 million
 - Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia - 1.25 million
 - Metropolitan Church of Basarabia - 0.62 million
 - Orthodox Church of Archbishops - 0.34 million
 - Estonian Orthodox Church - 0.3 million
 - Patriarchal Exarchate in Western Europe - 0.15 million
 - Finnish Orthodox Church - 0.08 million
 - Chinese Orthodox Church - 0.06 million
 - Japanese Orthodox Church - 0.02 million
 - Latvian Orthodox Church - 0.02 million
- Non-universally recognized churches
 - Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Kyiv Patriarchate) - 5.5 million
 - Belarusian Autocephalous Orthodox Church - 2.4 million
 - Macedonian Orthodox Church - 2 million
 - Orthodox Church of Greece (Holy Synod in Resistance) - 0.75 million
 - Old Calendar/Bulgarian Orthodox Church - 0.50 million
 - Old Calendar/Bulgarian Orthodox Church - 0.45 million
 - Croatian Orthodox Church - 0.36 million
 - Montenegrin Orthodox Church - 0.05 million
 - Orthodox Church in Italy - 0.12 million
- Other separated Orthodox groups
 - Old Believers - 1.8 million
 - Greek Old Calendarists - 0.86 million
 - Russian True Orthodox Church - 0.85 million
- Oriental Orthodoxy - 75 million
 - Autocephalous churches in communion
 - Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church - 45 million
 - Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria - 15.5 million
 - Syriac Orthodox Church - 10 million
 - Armenian Orthodox Church - 8 million
 - Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church - 2.5 million
 - Indian (Malankara) Orthodox Church - 2 million
 - Armenian Orthodox Church of Cilicia - 1.5 million
 - Autonomous churches in communion
 - Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church - 1.2 million
 - Armenian Patriarchate of Constantinople - 0.42 million
 - Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem - 0.34 million
 - French Coptic Orthodox Church - 0.01 million
 - British Orthodox Church - 0.01 million
- Churches not in communion
 - Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church - 1.1 million
 - Malabar Independent Syrian Church - 0.06 million

The star filled sky of a troubled church



7

American values that can affect the church

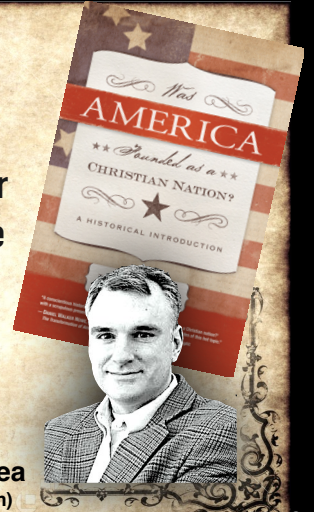
- **God will save me with my toys and crutches.**
- **If it produces tangible results it's of God.**
- **God's plan is for my personal happiness.**
- **Competition makes everything better.**
- **Growth & size define success.**
- **Individual rights over community responsibility.**



8

“Despite the biblical passages exhorting followers of Christ to “fear not,” it is possible to write an entire history of American evangelicalism as the story of Christians who have failed to overcome fear.”

John Fea
(historian)



9

3 John

“1 The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth. 2 Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers. 3 For I was very glad when brethren came and bore witness to your truth, that is, how you are walking in truth. 4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth. 5 Beloved, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially when they are strangers; 6 and they bear witness to your love before the church; and you will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. 7 For they went out for the sake of the Name (Acts 5:40-41), accepting nothing from the Gentiles. 8 Therefore we ought to support such men, that we may be fellow workers with the truth.”

10

3 John (paraphrase)

“1 Gaius, as your shepherd, I love you 2 and pray that you will be blessed in every way. 3 I was thrilled to hear of how you have been walking in the steps of Jesus. 4 Nothing gives me greater joy. 5 The testimony of how you have shown hospitality to strangers; 6 has spread through the whole church. You treated the brethren just as God would have. 7 They went out from your presence needing nothing from this world. 8 Your hospitality, is an example for all of us in how to share in the ministry of the Gospel.”

11

3 John

“1 The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in **truth**. . . . 3 For I was very glad when brethren came and bore witness to your **truth**, that is, how you are walking in **truth**. 4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the **truth**. . . . 7 For they went out for the sake of **the Name**, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. 8 Therefore we ought to support such men, that we may be fellow workers with the **truth**.”

Christian Community is
1. CHRIST centered.

The main thing is to keep the main thing, the MAIN THING.

12



“A team plays for the name on the front of the jersey not for the name on the back!”

Dean Smith



13

When the Sun shines
all other stars
fade out of sight.

14

The Holy Spirit's
ministry is not
to **Draw** our
attention but
to **Direct** our
attention.



John 15:26

15

3 John

"1 The elder to the **beloved** Gaius, whom I **love** in truth. . . . 5 **Beloved**, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the **brethren**, and especially when they are strangers; 6 and they bear witness to your **love** before the church; and you will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God."

**Christian Community has
2. an AGAPE assignment.**

**Agape (love) is not a gift.
It is a calling, a response, & a sign**

Jesus modeled it.

16

Ephesians 4:15

"but **speaking the truth in love**, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ,"

Listening to concerns
Overlooking weaknesses
Valuing strengths
Empathizing with joy & suffering

17

3 John

"2 Beloved, I **pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.** 3 For I was **very glad** when . . . 4 I have **no greater joy** than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth. 5 Beloved, **you are acting faithfully** in whatever you accomplish for the brethren, and especially when they are strangers;"

**Christian Community is
3. an AFFIRMING atmosphere.**

**Affirmation is one of the most
highly valued and least costly gifts
we can give someone.**

Jesus modeled it.

18

3 John

"3 For I was very glad when **brethren** came and bore witness to your truth, that is, how you are walking in truth. . . . 5 Beloved, you are acting faithfully in whatever you accomplish for the **brethren**, and especially when they are **strangers**; 6 and they bear witness to your love before **the church**; . . . 8 that we may be **fellow workers** with the truth."

**Christian Community has
4. a FAMILY feeling.**

Hospitality is not a gift.

It is a sign.

19

love one another (John 13:35 - this command comes 16 times)
 be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10)
 honour one another above yourselves (Romans 12:10)
 live in harmony with one another (Romans 12:16)
 build up one another (Romans 14:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)
 be likeminded towards one another (Romans 15:5)
 accept one another (Romans 15:7)
 admonish one another (Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16)
 care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25)
 serve one another (Galatians 5:13)
 bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
 forgive one another (Ephesians 4:2, 32; Colossians 3:13)
 be patient with one another (Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:13)
 be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32)
 speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19)
 submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21, 1 Peter 5:5)
 consider others better than yourselves (Philippians 2:3)
 look to the interests of one another (Philippians 2:4)
 bear with one another (Colossians 3:13)
 teach one another (Colossians 3:16)
 comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
 encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13)
 stir up one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24)
 show hospitality to one another (1 Peter 4:9)
 employ the gifts that God has given us for the benefit of one another (1 Peter 4:10)
 clothe yourselves with humility towards one another (1 Peter 5:5)
 pray for one another (James 5:16)
 confess our faults to one another (James 5:16)

The two greatest commands, on which, according to Jesus, all the others depend, are concerned with relationships, with God and one another

(Matthew 22:36-40)

“One another” refers to those who share a common faith in Christ.

20

3 John

“3 For I was very glad when brethren came and bore **witness** to your truth, that is, how you are **walking** in truth. 4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children **walking** in the truth. 5 Beloved, you are **acting** faithfully in whatever you **accomplish** for the brethren, and especially when they are strangers; 6 and they bear **witness** to your love before the church; 7 For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. 8 Therefore we ought to support such men, that we may be fellow **workers** with the truth.”

Christian Community is 5. a WALKING witness.

21



22

John 17

“22 And the glory which Thou hast given Me I have given to them; **that they may be one**, just as We are one; 23 I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, **that the world may know that Thou didst send Me, and didst love them**, even as Thou didst love Me.”

Christian unity has three functions:

- 1.) **authenticating Jesus Christ**
- 2.) **affirming God's love for Disciples**
- 3.) **announcing God's kingdom**
(the point of John's epistles)

23



24