



unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

v88

3 John

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Table of Contents

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions - 3 John	4
3 John 1	4

3 John

3 John 1

3 John 1:1

ULT:

The elder, to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.

UST:

{From John} the Church Leader. To Gaius, my dear friend, whom I truly love.

By what title does the author John introduce himself in this letter?

John introduces himself as the elder.

What relationship does John have with Gaius, the one receiving this letter?

John loves Gaius in truth.

3 John 1:2

ULT:

Beloved, I pray concerning everything {for} you to prosper and to be healthy, just as your soul prospers.

UST:

Dear friend, I am asking God to make everything go well for you and to keep you healthy physically, just as you are healthy in respect to God.

For what does John pray concerning Gaius?

John prays that Gaius would prosper in everything and be in health, as his soul prospers.

3 John 1:3

ULT:

For I rejoiced greatly when brothers came and attested to your truth, just as you are walking in truth.

UST:

I know that you are healthy in respect to God because some fellow believers came here and told me about your truthful way of living. They said that you live according to the true message about Jesus. That makes me very happy.

(There are no questions for this verse)

3 John 1:4

ULT:

I have no greater joy than these things, that I hear my children are walking in the truth.

UST:

This is what makes me the very happiest—when someone tells me that the people whom I have helped to follow Jesus are living according to the true message from God!

What is John's greatest joy?

John's greatest joy is to hear that his children are walking in the truth.

3 John 1:5

ULT:

Beloved, you are doing a faithful thing whenever you might work for the brothers, and this {for} strangers,

UST:

Dear friend, you are serving Jesus loyally whenever you do things to help fellow believers, even those whom you do not know.

For whom did Gaius work?

Gaius worked for the brothers even though they were strangers.

3 John 1:6

ULT:

who have attested your love before the church, whom you will do well to send on worthily of God,

UST:

Some of them have reported before the congregation {here} how you have shown that you love them. Such people are traveling in order to be obedient to Jesus and they have decided to allow only fellow believers to help them as they travel. Therefore it is good that you give such people what they need for traveling in a {generous} way that honors God. (vv6-7)

How should Gaius send the brothers on?

He should sent them on worthily of God.

3 John 1:7

ULT:

for they went out for the sake of the name, receiving nothing from the Gentiles.

UST:

Some of them have reported before the congregation {here} how you have shown that you love them. Such people are traveling in order to be obedient to Jesus and they have decided to allow only fellow believers to help them as they travel. Therefore it is good that you give such people what they need for traveling in a {generous} way that honors God. (vv6-7)

Why did the brothers need help from the believers to send them out on their journey?

They needed help because they were not accepting anything from the Gentiles.

3 John 1:8

ULT:

Therefore we ourselves ought to support such ones so that we may become fellow workers with the truth.

UST:

In fact, all of us {who believe in Jesus} should give these people whatever they need. Then it will be as though we are working alongside them as they help others to know God's true message.

Why does John say believers should welcome such people?

John says believers should welcome them to become fellow-workers with the truth.

3 John 1:9

ULT:

I wrote something to the church, but Diotrephes, the one loving to be first among them, does not receive us.

UST:

I wrote a letter to your group of believers to tell them to help those other believers. However, Diotrephes, who wants to dominate your group, refuses to do this.

What does Diotrephes love?

Diotrephes loves to be first among the people of his church.

What is Diotrephes' attitude toward John?

Diotrephes does not receive John.

3 John 1:10

ULT:

Because of this, if I come, I will call attention to his works that he is doing—accusing us with evil words. And not being satisfied with these things, he does not receive the brothers, and he stops the ones willing and puts them out of the church.

UST:

So when I arrive there I will publicly tell everyone what he does: He says bad things about us that are not true. In addition to doing that, he also refuses to welcome the believers {who are traveling in order to do God's work}. He even prevents those who do want to welcome them and forces them to leave the group of believers!

What will John do when he comes to Gaius and the congregation?

When John comes, he will call attention to the works that Diotrephes is doing.

What does Diotrephes do with the brothers who are sent out?

Diotrephes does not receive these brothers.

What does Diotrephes do with those who are willing to receive these brothers?

Diotrephes stops them from receiving the brothers and puts them out of the church.

3 John 1:11

ULT:

Beloved, do not imitate the evil, but the good. The one doing good is from God; the one doing evil has not seen God.

UST:

Dear friend, do not copy a bad example {like that}. Instead, do the good things that you see good people doing. {Remember that} people who do good deeds truly belong to God. But anyone who keeps doing what is bad does not know God.

What does John tell Gaius to imitate?

John tells Gaius to imitate what is good.

3 John 1:12

ULT:

Demetrius has been attested to by all and by the truth itself. And we ourselves also attest, and you know that our testimony is true.

UST:

People widely praise Demetrius as a good person. The way that he lives according to God's true message also makes it clear that he is a good person. We also confirm that he is a good person, and you know that what we say is true.

(There are no questions for this verse)

3 John 1:13

ULT:

I have many things to write to you, but I do not wish to write them to you with ink and pen.

UST:

There are many {more} things about which I could write to you. But I do not want to write to you {about them} in a letter.

(There are no questions for this verse)

3 John 1:14

ULT:

But I expect to see you soon, and we will speak mouth to mouth.

UST:

Instead, I hope to come and see you soon. Then we will talk directly with one another.

What does John expect to do in the future?

John expects to come and speak with Gaius in person.

3 John 1:15

ULT:

Peace to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

UST:

I pray that God will help you live peacefully. The believers {here} greet you. Please greet for us {each of} the believers {there} individually.

(There are no questions for this verse)