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January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*Small Group Discussion Questions*

**Getting Started**

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion.

Expect God to move through your time together!

**Pacing Your Group**

Move quickly through “observation” leaving enough time for “reflection”, “discussion”, and “surrender.”

**Scripture Reading**

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

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**Observation: What do the scripture passages say? Read 3 John 9-15**

1. What specific behaviors does John attribute to Diotrephes in verses 9–10, and how do those actions affect both authority and fellowship within the church?
2. How does John contrast Diotrephes and Demetrius in verses 11–12, and what criteria does John use to evaluate who is “of God”?
3. What do verses 13–15 reveal about John’s values regarding communication, conflict, and relationship in the life of the church?

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**Reflection and Discussion: What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures?**

**How do the scriptures connect to everyday life?**

4. Where am I most tempted to “love to have first place”—in leadership, influence, opinions, or control—and how might that reveal self-deception rather than Christ-likeness?
5. When I criticize leaders or fellow believers, how do I discern whether I am serving the truth in love or protecting my own power, preference, or pride?
6. Have my attitudes or actions ever made the church feel unsafe, unwelcoming, or unnecessarily exclusive to genuine believers—and what repentance or repair might faithfulness require?
7. What would it look like this week to imitate “what is good” by choosing face-to-face peace-making, humble submission, and relational courage instead of distance, slander, or avoidance?

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**Surrender: Responding to God’s voice.**

8. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

**\*\* Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today \*\***

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**We're here!**

We would love to hear about how things are going in your life group!  
Reach out any time with questions, ideas, thoughts, or concerns.  
Contact the Discipleship Team, [communitylife@changepointalaska.com](mailto:communitylife@changepointalaska.com)