**CHAPEL OF HIS RESURRECTION**

**ESUT TEACHING HOSPITAL, PARK LANE, GRA ENUGU**

**BIBLE STUDY** 12th March, 2023.

**Theme**: Be Strong and Never be Discouraged, There will be Reward for your Work

**Topic**: Gaius, Demetrius and Diotrephes

**Text**: 3 John

**INTRODUCTION**

The book of 3 John focuses on practical Christianity with highlights on our reputation before God and man. Our reputation evaluates our character, integrity and stance; it may be good or bad, positive or negative. God expects us to live according to ***the Word’s*** standard and not ***the world’s*** standard. Our lives should encourage and stir up faith in others; making the weak strong.

As we X-ray our lives in the light of the Word, we will consider 3 men: Gaius – the commendable Christian, Diotrephes – the conceited Christian, and Demetrius – the consistent Christian. Pray and put to practice every decision taken.

**QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

1. How will you describe the relationship of Gaius with other believers? 3Jn vs 1, 3 – 6; Rom16:23 Are you consistent in any virtue in all churches and believers you encounter?
2. a. Identify the things commended in Gaius – Vs 1 – 8

b. Are these attributes common among believers today? Give reasons for your answer. Are you giving support of any kind to missionaries?

1. How vital are faithfulness, hospitality and truth in our service to God? Matt 24: 45 – 46; 25:35, 38, 40; Jn 4: 23 – 24; Ps 51:6. Write down how you intend to practice these this year.
2. a. In 3Jn vs 9 – 10, we are warned of men like Diotrephes in the church. Point out those things condemnable in his life. Do you see any of them in you? Repent

b. Point out other “Diotrephes-likes” characteristics. 2Tim3:5 – 9; Matt 23: 1 – 7

What is expected of us? 3Jn1: 11; Heb13:1-3;; Matt 20: 25 – 28

Who are you imitating in life and ministry?

1. How will you describe John’s testimony of Demetrius in Vs 12? (see also 2Cor13:1)

Do you think people’s testimonies about us matter? 1Tm5:9-10; 3:7.

What testimony do people have about you?

1. What should be our manner of life among:
	1. Believers – 2Thess 3: 6 – 9; 1Tim 4:11 – 12, 16
	2. Unbelievers – 1Thess 4: 11 – 12; Tit 2:7 – 10; Col4:5-6 write down how you intend to practice these this year.

Make the most of every opportunity you get to bless people with the lifestyle and message of Jesus Christ

**CONCLUSION**
Charles Spurgeon wrote, “*The eagle-eyed world acts as a policeman for the church… (it) becomes a watch-dog over the sheep, barking furiously as soon as one goes astray. Be careful of your private lives…and I believe your public lives will be sure to be right; but remember that it is upon your public life that the verdict of the world will very much depend*”.

The life you live is the evidence of your belief. Let your life be a reflection of Christ both within and outside the church.

**MEMORY VERSE**: “*Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God*” – 3John vs11