

# A Quick Text

Exploring the four shortest books of the Bible

**Session 2** 3 John:  
Love Thy (E)stranger  
week starting August 22, 2021

3 John is the shortest book in the New Testament. It is written to encourage this (likely) small church to love those coming through town to minister the gospel. The quick text from John is to love thy stranger. For us today, some of the hardest people to actively love are those estranged relationships in our lives—aka, the estrangers.

## GETTING STARTED

- Describe a relationship that became a “fast friend.” What about it made him or her so easy to connect with?

## DISCUSSION

1. Who is harder to be kind to—someone you know very well or someone you know very little? Why do you think that is the case?
2. Without saying names; describe an estranged relationship in your life presently or in the past. What caused the separation among you?
3. Read 3 John 1:1–10. Compare and contrast the two main characters John writes about in this section, Gaius and Diotrephes. What about Gaius’ behavior is John celebrating?
4. How might God be inviting you to bridge the gap with an estranged relationship with your life?