

Group graphic
Series Graphic

How's it going?

3 John 1

The elder: To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the **truth**.

3 John 2

Dear friend, I pray that you are **prospering in every way** and are in **good health**, just as your **soul** prospers.

{come up one at a time}

We have a **soul**.

The soul has a **condition**.

The soul's condition should be our **priority**.

Mark 8:36

What good is it for someone to gain the **whole world**, yet forfeit their **soul**?

We can **control** the condition of our soul.

3 Needs of Every Soul:

Focus

Transcendence

Stillness/Silence

3 John 3-4

For I was very glad when fellow believers came and testified to your fidelity to the **truth**—how you are **walking in truth**. I have no greater joy than this: to hear that my children are **walking in truth**.

1) The prosperous soul focuses on and aligns with **transcendent truth**.

Philippians 3:8

I count all things to be loss in view of the **surpassing value** of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord,

Obstacles:

Wrong scoreboard

Identity theft

Superficial spirituality is ok

False peace

Culture of constant distraction

3 John 5-8

Dear friend, you are acting **faithfully** in whatever you do for the brothers and sisters, especially when they are strangers. They have testified to your **love** before the church. You will do well to send them on their journey in a manner worthy of God, since they set out for the **sake of the Name**, accepting nothing from pagans. Therefore, we ought to support such people so that we can be **coworkers with the truth**.

2) The prosperous soul is **unhurried**.

Busy is about my schedule.

Hurried is about my soul.

{all together}

Being hurried means:

- I am unable to be fully present
- I am preoccupied with myself and my life
- I am unavailable to God
- I am spiritually drained

3) The prosperous soul overflows with **love**.

What's coming **out of me** ...?

3 John 9-10

I wrote something to the church, but **Diotrephes**, who **loves to have first place** among them, does not receive our authority. This is why, if I come, I will remind him of the works he is

doing, **slandering** us with malicious words. And he is not satisfied with that! He not only refuses to welcome fellow believers, but he even stops those who want to do so and expels them from the church.

Matthew 15:19

For **from the heart** come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander.

3 John 11-12

Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. The one who does good is of God; the one who does evil has not seen God. Everyone speaks well of Demetrius—even the truth itself. And we also speak well of him, and you know that our testimony is true.

How am I responding **to truth** ...?

"Arrange your days so that you experience total contentment, joy, and confidence in your everyday life with God."
{Dallas Willard}

a) Consistently giving my soul **space** ... (silence, solitude, stillness, Sabbath)

b) Daily **fixing my attention** on **transcendent truth** until I **overflow** ...

c) Frequently being in **community** that has **soulful** interactions.

3 John 13-14

I have **many things** to write you, but I don't want to write to you with pen and ink. I hope to see you soon, and we will talk **face to face**.

Peace to you. The friends send you greetings. Greet the friends **by name**.

4) The prosperous soul has a **keeper, a center, and future**

Hebrews 6:19-20

We have this hope as an **anchor for the soul**, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, **Jesus**, has entered on our behalf...