



STUDY GUIDE

# Resurrection and Friendship

3 John

## WELCOME & SHARING

Share announcements...

- **Intro to New City Saturday, May 20th 8a-noon**

Intro to New City is a seminar designed to help you get to know the church a little better: hear the story of the church's origins, our Vision, Values, Beliefs, and Philosophy of ministry, some things that are distinctive about New City, etc. It also provides a basic framework for understanding the gospel, and the church's role in God's plan of redemption.

Intro to New City is a pre-requisite to membership at New City, however, attending the seminar does *not* commit you to membership. It's something we hope all regulars at New City will experience and if nothing else you get some free food and books! If you need **childcare** for the class we will be glad to provide it.

- **Aruna 5k**

The Cincinnati Aruna Run is a 5K run/walk to raise awareness and money to help bring and sustain freedom to the enslaved in the brothels of South Asia. We will have four different teams from New City this year. *New City Friends* led by Jacquelyn Stevens, *New City Presbys* led by Ryan Zhang, *New City Dwellers* led by Mike Previtera, and *New City 4 Aruna* led by Jess Bennett. Please search and join one of the teams when you sign up. If all the teams are full, or you would like to start your own team for your family and friends, please feel free to do so and let us know once you created your own team! **COST:** \$35 (additional sponsorship/fundraising encouraged) **REGISTRATION:** You need to register online with the Aruna Project: <http://arunaproject.com/events/6514>

- **Men's Outing: Woodford Distillery Tour | Sunday, May 21st**

Gentlemen...join us for a beautiful little road trip. A meander through bourbon country on Sunday, May 21st to visit probably the most quaint and delightful of the bourbon distilleries: Woodford Reserve. There is an option to sample the bourbon at the end of the tour but this is about the beauty of the area and the camaraderie of a short road trip. We'll leave from the church building at 12:30p (eat lunch before you come or bring something to munch on the car), head down to Versailles, KY for the tour, enjoy the afternoon and head back, returning before dinner time around 5:30p. Space is limited so you **MUST** pre-purchase a ticket online here: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2942893>

- **Plans for winding down**

You may want to begin talking about your plan for finishing up and finishing well. This might mean planning an end of the year party in June or talking about which dates will be your last. Take a few minutes to remember and celebrate memories from the year and the way God has worked in and through your group.

## STUDY/DISCUSSION

**Opener Question:** What is your favorite thing to eat on the grill? (or, if you'd prefer, favorite thing to take on a picnic)

Though Christmas gets more acclaim in our culture, Easter is *the principal* Christian holiday. The resurrection of Jesus Christ changes everything. Over the next few months we're going to be talking about the implications of the resurrection for our lives.

1. Talk about someone who has been a good friend to you. What made them a good friend?
2. Have different folks in the group read aloud these various texts from Proverbs. Talk about the portrait of friendship we get from these verses.
  - Proverbs 17.17
  - Proverbs 18.24
  - Proverbs 25.17
  - Proverbs 25.20
  - Proverbs 27.5-6
  - Proverbs 27.9
  - Proverbs 27.17
  - Proverbs 28.23
3. **Read 3 John** together. What stands out to you from this passage as challenging, surprising, or encouraging?
4. 3 John is not *teaching about* friendship as much as it *embodies* friendship. In what ways is John acting as a friend to Gaius?
5. Why might Gaius have especially needed a good friend at this point in his life?
6. George Monbiot has called our time "the age of loneliness." Why does it contribute to loneliness and isolation in our culture?
7. How can the church grow in encouraging deep and lasting friendships?
8. How can deep friendship be a means of evangelism and blessing to those outside the church?
9. **Read John 15:13-15.** How can the friendship of Jesus transform your other friendships?
10. What steps do you need to take to grow in friendship?

NEIGHBORING EXPERIMENT: Become a “regular.” Pick a place and frequent it (@ least once a week). I.e. a coffee shop, park, grocery store (pick the same cashier), gym, etc.

## **PRAYER**

*Take some time and pray together:* You can pray as a large group, break into smaller groups, split up into men and women, etc. If you share prayer requests, post them to the City so that your group can continue to be praying for each other.