

## 2 JOHN

### LOOK at the Text

#### 1. 5 W's & H (Who, What, Where, When, Why, How)

- Who are the main characters in this passage? List everything we learn about the individuals or groups.
  - The elder (the author, John)
  - The lady and her children (the recipients, the church congregation who John wrote to)
  - Jesus Christ
  - God the Father
  - The deceivers
  
- What has given John great joy?
- What do we learn about the truth in v1-2?
- What does it mean to "run ahead"? What is at stake?
- What are the commands in this text?
- What words are repeated throughout these verses? When anyone repeats words or phrases they generally want you to pay attention to these ideas!
  
- Where are the deceivers?
  - What does this mean? Think back to what you learned in 1 John.
- Where do you think John is writing from? (hint: no town is mentioned, see what you can discover from v12-13).
  
- Why does John say he is writing this letter to the church?
- Why does John want to visit this church?
- Why does the church have to watch out? What is at stake?
  
- How should Christians walk?
- How does John encourage this church to respond to "anyone" who teaches, but doesn't teach what Scripture teaches?
  - What ideas do you have for how that applies to our day and age?
- How does John describe love?

Pulling this all together, then...

- What are the main ideas in this chapter? How would you summarize each section?
  - 2 John 1-3
  - 2 John 4-6
  - 2 John 7-8
  - 2 John 9-11
  - 2 John 12-13

## 2. LEARN from God's Word

Whole Bible Connections - Look up the following verses from other parts of scripture and note how they relate to 2 John. What do they affirm about what John is saying in this letter?

- 2 John 8 warns the reader to watch out so "that you do not lose what we have worked for". Read how the apostles describe what they worked for:
  - JOHN: John 20:30-31
  - PETER: Acts 2:36-40 (read the whole chapter context)
  - PAUL: Acts 17:1-4; 1 Corinthians 3:10-11; Colossians 1:28-29
    - What have the apostles worked for?
    - How could someone lose what the apostles have worked for?
- 2 John 10 says not to take false teachers "into your house" or "welcome" them. We'll explain what this means and how it applies in our teaching time, but for now it's important to know that this is a common theme throughout the New Testament. Read this small sample and note: how false teachers are described and/or how Christians should respond to them.
  - Matt 7:15-20
  - Acts 20:28-31
  - Romans 16:17-18
  - 2 Timothy 4:1-5 (read the whole section for context and focus on v 3-4)
  - 1 John 4:1-6
  - Jude 16-19
    - Clearly false teaching is a big deal that we need repeat warnings about! Are you surprised by the consistent warning in Scripture about the prevalence of false teachers in "Christian" communities? We can be encouraged today that we are studying God's very word, and listening to His truth.
      - How are you convicted or encouraged by this?

## 3. LIVE in light of the Text

- What is God saying to us in this passage about His purpose for our lives?
- How do the main ideas in this passage strengthen or challenge me to repent and change?
  - My Head - thoughts; beliefs; frameworks
  - My Heart - desires; emotions
  - My Hands - behaviours; deeds
- How should these main ideas influence and change my prayers?
  - Adoration - What can I praise and thank God for?
  - Confession - What do I need to repent of?
  - Supplication - What will I ask God for?