

Truth, Joy and Love in the Church

2 John 1-6

- I. Truth: Embracing God's truth binds us together as a church (1-3).
 - A. Authentic love between believers is centered on the truth of the Gospel (1).
 - B. God's truth will always endure in local churches in this age (2).
 - C. God's love for us is based upon the truth of who He is and what He has done for us through Christ (3).

- II. Joy: Obeying God's truth brings joy and encouragement to one another (4).
 - A. The Joy Principle: We will bring joyful encouragement to other believers just by simply obeying God.
 - B. The Affirmation Principle: We need to verbally affirm those who are obeying God's truth.

- III. Love: Loving one another is the first way we must practice God's truth (5-6).
 - A. Loving one another was Christ's original command to us (5; Matthew 22:39).
 - B. The most loving thing I can do for fellow Christians is to obey God – because they will always benefit (6).