

Well-Liked or Off-Key?

SCRIPTURE: 3 John

INTRODUCTION: If we didn't have problems in our relationships, half the publishing industry would go out of business and three-fourths of the talk shows would go off the air. The tiny book of 3 John is about relationships among Christians, and we are introduced to three men.

1. **Gaius—A Joy.** His name meant “Rejoiced!” and he brought John joy by walking in the truth. Do you lift the spirits of others or depress them?
2. **Diotrephes—A Jerk.** John wasn't letting himself get tied in knots over Diotrephes, but he was nonetheless honest about the problem.
3. **Demetrius—A Jewel.** Perhaps the bearer of this letter, Demetrius was well-liked by everyone.

CONCLUSION: Charlie Cello grated on everyone's nerves. He was a constant irritation, off-key, striking a disharmonious cord. That is, until the Master Musician came, turned his strings, and made him a joyful addition to the orchestra. Does your personality need tuning up by the Master? *Come, Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart. . . .*