**Bible Marking Sheet**

**The Epistles of John - 6**

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| **The Basis of Fellowship** |
| **The light is…** |
| ***1 John 1*** | ***Gospel of John*** | ***Other Scriptures*** |
| the word v1 | the words of Christ John 12:46 | the law of God Pro 6:23 |
| the truth v6; 2 John v1-4 | - | the commandments of God Pro 6:23 |
| the message v5 | - | the gospel 2 Cor 4:4 |

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| **Fellowship in the New Testament** |
| Common | We have a common faith e.g. Titus 1:4 |
| Partnership | We partner with others in the work of the truth e.g. 2 Cor 8:23 |
| Sharing | We share our material goods with those in need e.g. Rom 15:26 |
| Participation | We participate in the blood and body of Christ e.g. 1 Cor 10:16 |

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| **Fellowship in the 1st Century – Acts 2:41-47** |
| 1. | Generous material sharing of resources |
| 2. | Continual, daily practice |
| 3. | One mind and purpose |
| 4. | Physically came together in a location |
| 5.  | Opened homes for fellowship activity |
| 6. | Shared food enthusiastically, always with a spiritual mind |
| 7. | Praising God and respected by outsiders |
| 8. | God was bringing people into the ecclesia to save them |
| **Ecclesial-based Fellowship** |
| 2 Cor 8:22 | “oftentimes proved diligent in many things” |
| 2 Cor 8:19 | “who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us |
| 2 Cor 8:23 | “partner” “are the messengers of the churches” |
| Acts 13:3 | “laid their hands on them, they sent them away” |
| Acts 15:22, 25, 27; 1 Cor 16:3; 2 Cor 8:18, 22; Col 4:8 | “send chosen men”, “sent”, “sent with them” |
| Acts 15:23; 18:27; 1 Cor 16:3 | “they wrote letters” |
| Rom 16:1 | “commend unto you” |
| Rom 16:2; Acts 18:27; Col 4:10 | “receive her/him” |
| Acts 15:24 | “went out from us”, “we gave no such commandment” |

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| **“Receive him not” 2 John** |
| * Responsibility of believers is to “not receive” those without the doctrine of Christ (“Receive”: Acts 21:17; Rom 15:7, 16:2; 2 Cor. 7:2,15; Gal.4:14; Phil.2:29; Phile. 12,15,17; 2 John 10, 3 John 8,9,10).
* “Doctrine of Christ” not limited to “Christ came in the flesh” – used of “his teaching” in general (Matt. 7:28, 22:33, John 7:16-17, 18:19, Acts 2:42 - same as “apostle’s doctrine”, Acts 13:12, 17:19,Heb. 6:2).
* Covers all cases of receiving by principle – we believe 2 John is giving an example i.e. the ecclesia is not to receive an individual without the teaching of Christ.
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| **“Receiving” 3 John** |
| * We should receive those who are walking in the truth.
* Fellowship matters should be addressed to the ecclesia.
* Fellowship problems should never be about personality or a power struggle.
* It is wrong to not receive someone who has committed to the doctrine and fellowship practice.
* It is wrong to forbid others to receive someone who has committed to the doctrine and fellowship practice.
* It is wrong to cast out of the ecclesia those that desire to receive someone who has committed to the doctrine and fellowship practice.
* It is not saying that we should “receive” everyone, or in fact anyone that has not committed to the doctrine and fellowship practice.
* It is not saying that we should never “forbid others to receive”, in fact 2 John gives us the very situation where we should.
* It is not saying that we should never “cast some out of the ecclesia” in fact it is the same term Paul uses in Gal. 4 of Ishmael in parallel to those with false doctrine.
* It is wrong to not receive those you should (3 John) and it is wrong to receive those you should not (2 John).
* The doctrine of Christ is the difference maker, not personality or power.
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