

**Navigating the tension: Spiritual bullies**  
**3 John 8-15.**

**What are the marks of corrupt Christian leadership in the local church faithful believers should resist and confront?**

**Faithful believers in the local church should resist and confront Christian leaders that...**

- I. Use their platform for self-serving and self-promoting purposes: “he likes to put himself first” 3 John 9.**
- II. Refuse to acknowledge the collective wisdom and authority of leaders in the wider body of Christ: “does not acknowledge our authority” 3 John 9.**
- III. Leverage their influence to slander and oppose those who disagree with them 3 John 10-12.**

**Pride is the hallmark of spiritual bullies**  
**Who seek to turn God’s kingdom into their own**  
**Resist the pull of prideful personalities!**

1. If pride is the hallmark character fault of spiritual bullies, humility is the hallmark of the heart of Christ (Matthew 11:29). Humility builds community, pride leads to isolation. Are you a committed member of the body of Christ or just someone who goes along to see what benefits you are able to get?
2. In God’s leadership metrics, good leaders are good followers. To be a good follower one must have a teachable spirit. Acknowledging authority in community is essential to lead well. Are you someone who welcomes feedback from others to grow in maturity?