



Big Idea: The Gospel According To John – Read John 3

Pastor Chris Smeltz - Part 4

“But these are written that you may **believe** that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by **believing** you may have **life** in his name.” John 21:31

This week Pastor Chris unpacked John 3 in our summer series, The Gospel According to John. He focused on the conversation Jesus had with a pharisee named Nicodemus. It’s a conversation that we all need to have with Jesus! Jesus replied, “very truly I tell you no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” John 3:3 **You are not a physical being having a temporary spiritual experience you are a spiritual being having a temporary physical experience.** This flesh and bone life is temporary, but all too often it’s the lens we view life through. But... you can’t solve spiritual problems with physical solutions. Jesus was clear, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless you are born of water and the Spirit. The epicenter of the gospel message is rooted in John 3:16...“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

God loved- God is Love, without God we wouldn’t know what love is.

God gave- God is generous,

Whoever- Salvation is open to anyone

Believes- This means to entrust

Shall not perish- though physically you die, spiritually you live

Jesus is the only one that can save you. There’s no other option! He’s not a way to heaven... He is the way to heaven. Jesus came to save you not to condemn you. John 3:17-18 “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.”

Discussion Questions

- What is the proper response to the depth of love, grace, and mercy Jesus showed us on the cross? Discuss this.
- How Why should Jesus let you into Heaven?
- What does it mean to have an intimate relationship with Jesus?
- How has knowing God changed your life? How has it impacted the lives of those around you?

Prayer Focus

Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for our sins, for choosing to love all of us, and for forgiving us instantly, no matter what we’ve done or may do. Holy Spirit reveal any areas of my life that I still have not surrendered. Help me continue to trust You with my life.

Next Steps

Write down the ways in which you want to refocus your energies to live for heaven. Begin to pray over these things and ask God for direction in how to live them out. Identify people in your sphere of influence who need to know Jesus, and begin to develop relationships with them.

Leader Tip

Encourage your group members to spend time considering anything from their past that they may be holding on to. As a group, take time to surrender your pasts to Jesus, and make a fresh commitment to step into the fullness of life in Christ.