

GIG 2: John 3



Icebreaker

If you've ever watched the movie "Old School" you might recall the point in the movie when the members of Lambda Epsilon Omega embark on one last effort to stay on campus and redefine their existence on campus. Can you think of a time when you felt like you needed a fresh start? Were you given the opportunity to wipe the slate clean and start over?

Read John 3: 1-21

Feel free to read this passage aloud as a group or silently to yourselves.

Some Questions for Discussion

1. What are some of the facts we can gather about Nicodemus from v. 1-2?
2. Jesus' initial response doesn't seem to go with the flow of the conversation. Why would he respond the way that he did?
3. Compare Nicodemus' and Jesus' ideas of what "born again" means?
4. According to Jesus, what is his identity and purpose?
5. How is it that a person can gain eternal life?
6. If someone truly believes something, how is that belief reflected in their actions?
7. What does an individual's lifestyle look like if they truly believe in Jesus and follow Him?
8. What happens to those that do not believe in him?
9. What do dark and light represent in this context?
10. How can someone come into the light?
11. Why is it that people in the darkness don't move into the light?
12. Where are you in your understanding of spiritual life? Still in the dark? Moving closer to the light?
13. According to Jesus, what must happen in order to have eternal life and enter into the kingdom of God?
14. How would you compare your own search for God with Nicodemus? More straightforward? More intellectual?
15. What areas of your life do you want to bring into the light?

Leaders Notes

1. *Pharisee of Ruling council = Member of Jewish governing body with both spiritual and political power, Also respected as a religion professor, Afraid for his reputation - came at night, Teachable & curious*
2. *If there are questions about verses 13 & 14, the Old Testament account of Moses and the bronze snake can be found in Numbers 21:4-9. You should be sure that you are familiar with this as well as its parallels to Jesus in case someone asks you about it. However, you should not purposely delve into it because of the limitations on time.*
6. *This question and the following one are not geared towards a lengthy discussion on Lordship issues, but are there to help people understand that belief in Jesus is not merely intellectual belief, but involves your whole life.*
7. *If the group's thoughts are way off on this question, you may wish to challenge them to read the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7 during the week*

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