



October 11, 2015 | John 3

Discuss: [Q] Have you been able to BLESS someone from the overflow of God's grace and mercy to you? If so, how? Please share. (**BLESS:** Begin to Pray. Listen. Eat. Serve. Share your Story.)

Jesus is in Jerusalem during the Passover. While there, He receives a nocturnal visit from a very important man. **Read John 3:1-15.**

[Q] What do you know about Nicodemus from the following verses?

John 3:10

John 7:50-51

John 19:39

[Q] According to John 3:3, what must happen for someone to see the kingdom of God? What does "entering the Kingdom" (3:3, 5) have to do with being "born again"?

[Q] How do Titus 3:5 and 1 Peter 1:3, 23 further explain spiritual birth?

[Q] Do you *know* that you have eternal life? If so, describe how you became born again.

In Numbers 21, the Israelites on their way from Egypt to the Promised Land, began to blaspheme God and complain. God sent venomous snakes to punish them and the people asked Moses to pray for them. He did and God said, "Make a bronze snake, lift it up on a pole and tell the people that if they look at it, they will live." (Numbers 21:8) In our passage today, Jesus prophesies to Nicodemus that His crucifixion will be the spiritual re-enactment and fulfillment of that Old Testament picture.

Read John 3:16-21.

[Q] John 3:16 is probably the most well-known verse in the Bible. If this were the only verse we had, what would we know about God and salvation?

[Q] What important information do verses 17 and 18 add concerning salvation? What conditions does Jesus describe to inherit eternal life?

[Q] How do these conditions contrast with the idea of earning God's approval by straightening up one's life or counting on God's love for the world?

Read John 3:22-36.

[Q] What is the importance of Jesus spending time with His disciples (v. 22)?
How does Jesus make disciples today? When and where is your time with the Disciple?

[Q] How did John the Baptist demonstrate by attitude and action that Jesus was superior to him?

[Q] What is one way you can demonstrate the superiority of Christ in your life?

Pray

...for opportunities to: share your story, serve, eat with, and listen to those God has put in your life who need Him.

Take it further: List all the *opposites* you can find in John 3:16-21. (Some use the word *not*.)
For help in sharing your story, check out this resource at valleycommunity.cc/shareyourstory.