

Growth Group News

Don't forget to pray for VBS and the Children's Musical!

What was the Message of Jesus? (Decoding Jesus: Three Simple Truths) John 3:1-15

INSTRUCTIONS: THESE QUESTIONS ARE INTENDED TO CAUSE US TO THINK MORE DEEPLY ABOUT OUR FAITH IN VIEW OF THE SERMON. YOU MAY NOT GET TO EVERY QUESTION. ONE QUESTION MAY INDUCE OTHER FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS OR CAUSE A LARGER DISCUSSION. OUR PURPOSE ISN'T TO 'DISCUSS THE SERMON' SO MUCH AS IT IS TO TAKE OUR CONSIDERATION OF THE PASSAGE DEEPER SO THAT WE CAN LIVE CHANGED LIVES.

ICE BREAKER QUESTION

Would you be willing to show your present friends and growth group attendees your senior picture from your highschool annual or would you like to change the subject, given the dated hair style?

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

Do you think you are making an impact for the Kingdom of God?

UNDERSTANDING QUESTIONS

1. When you read John 3:1-2 what strikes you about Nicodemus' statements about Jesus and signs?
2. Often we think about Jesus' interaction with Nicodemus as a story of one man's struggle to understand salvation. The truth is, it is so much more! Read John 3:1-15 and look at the "Truly, truly" statements (or "Assuredly I say to you" statements). What is the point of these statements?
3. From time to time pastor will say something like "being in church doesn't make you a Christian anymore than being in a garage makes you an automobile." Relate this to the person and identity of Nicodemus (particularly in connection with John 3:10).
4. Discuss what it means to be 'born from above (read John 3:3,5).' When you think of being born again (born from above) what similarities does your first conception and birth share with your second conception and birth? What role can you take credit for in each?
5. Read Numbers 21:5-9 and then read Ephesians 2:8-9 and John 3:14-15. Why do you think some call John 3:14-15 the "Ephesians 2:8-9" of the Gospels?
6. As you think back through the sermon and what you've learned in the previous two chapters of John's gospel, is the gospel message outlined by Jesus in John 3:1-15 so complicated to understand and communicate?