

“Closer Walk” Bible Study

The Gospel Of John Chapter 3

Purpose: To share lives around the Scripture and through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit make happy and unexpected discoveries that change our lives and bring us closer in our walk with Jesus.

Getting us started

1. What were you first told about where babies came from? How old were you when you learned the real story?
2. What did you and your brother or sister fight about? How would you try to get your way?
3. At family reunions, what subject (e.g., politics or religion) is bound to start an argument?

Getting us into Scripture

4. What can you find out about Nicodemus in verses 1-2? What is significant about his coming to Jesus? Why at night (see vv. 19-20)? Why was Jesus so direct with him?
5. What two ideas about birth are Jesus and Nicodemus thinking of? What point is Jesus making by comparing spiritual birth to the wind? How does Jesus account for Nicodemus' lack of understanding?
6. What does Jesus claim about himself in verses 13-15?
7. From verses 16-18, what stands out to you about God? About what God wants to do? About how a person is condemned? How will belief show itself (vv. 15-21)?
8. How is Jesus' use of the phrase “born again” similar to and different from the way it is used today? How would you define “born again” in your own words?
9. Given the different ideas about baptism, what do you think happened at the river? What do you think the “certain Jew” had said (v. 25)? How would you have felt if you had been one of John's disciples at this point?
10. How does John the Baptist respond (vv. 27-36)? What is the point of the allegory or story about the bride and bridegroom? What does John's response tell you about him?
11. What facts about Jesus does John bring out in verses 31-36?
12. How does the phrase “rejecting the Son” stand in contrast to what belief really means?

Getting Scripture into us

13. What first aroused your interest in Jesus? Why?
14. Where are you right now in the birthing process of spiritual life: Not yet conceived? Developing, but not so anyone could tell? Heavy with child and waiting? Kicking and screaming like an infant? Growing daily? Explain.
15. When did you begin to see God as saving you, rather than condemning you?
16. Consider verse 27. What have you received from heaven? How do you use what you have received?
17. How can you apply verse 30 in your own life?