

John 3 presents a pivotal conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus, a Pharisee and member of the Jewish ruling council. Nicodemus, intrigued by Jesus' teachings and miracles, visits Him at night to learn more. In this chapter, Jesus introduces the concept of spiritual rebirth, declaring that one must be "born again" through the Holy Spirit to enter the Kingdom of God (John 3:3). He also reveals God's profound love for humanity, famously stating, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son" (John 3:16). Through this dialogue, John highlights the necessity of faith in Jesus for eternal life and offers a deeper understanding of salvation, grace, and spiritual transformation.

Share a time when you did something in secret so as not to get into trouble.

Read John 3:1-21

1. What does Nicodemus' title and his approach tell us about his status and beliefs?
2. What does it reveal about the spiritual climate of the time that Nicodemus came to Jesus secretly?
3. Jesus says, "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." What does it mean to be "born again"?
4. How does Nicodemus respond to Jesus' statement, and why does he seem confused? Is there anything in particular that confuses you about the Christian faith?
5. What is the connection between being born of "water" and the "Spirit" in verse 5?
6. Jesus speaks of heavenly things (verse 12) but also mentions His own ascension (verse 13). How does the reference to His ascension relate to the idea of spiritual rebirth? See also John 16:7
7. Why does Jesus mention the story of the bronze serpent in Numbers 21:4-9, and how is it related to His mission (John 3:14-15)?
8. What is the significance of John 3:16, often called "the Gospel in a nutshell"? Why is the concept of "believing in Him" (Jesus) emphasised in this verse, and what does it mean to believe in Him in this context?
9. In verse 17, Jesus explains that He did not come to condemn the world. What does this teach us about God's plan for salvation and our approach to the world?
10. Jesus talks about light coming into the world, but people loved darkness rather than light. What does this suggest about human nature and the response to Jesus' message?
11. Even though we know the gospel, we too at times reject God's light. What is the difference between a Christian's behaviour and someone who is not, when it comes to rejecting the light?

Prayer Points

Pray for the ongoing needs for volunteers with regards to Toddlers, cooks and Limitless on Tuesday nights.

Praise God for BMS-supported workers Mariia and Youness in Tours, France, who use the national food of people seeking sanctuary in their town to offer hospitality and build relationships based on trust and friendship.

Sermon Notes



BIBLE STUDY

June 15th 2025

Born Again:

John 3:1-21

John 1–7 presents key themes that reveal Jesus' identity and mission. Jesus is the eternal Word of God, bringing light and life to a dark world. He calls people to believe in Him for eternal life, but many reject Him despite His miracles and teachings. A central theme is new birth—spiritual transformation through the Holy Spirit. Jesus offers living water and calls Himself the Bread of Life, showing He alone satisfies the soul. These chapters also highlight growing conflict and division, as people respond to Him with belief, confusion, or hostility. Through signs and deep conversations, Jesus reveals His divine nature and the offer of salvation to all, regardless of background or status.

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001