

Gospel of John Chapter 3

Memory verse: **John 3:35-36**

The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. ³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

John 3 (ESV)

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

²² After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing. ²³ John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized ²⁴ (for John had not yet been put in prison).²⁵ Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. ²⁶ And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." ²⁷ John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. ²⁸ You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' ²⁹ The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. ³⁰ He must increase, but I must decrease." ³¹ He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all. ³² He bears witness to what he has seen and heard, yet no one receives his testimony. ³³ Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. ³⁴ For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. ³⁵ The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hand. ³⁶ Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.



Scene it

1. **Summary** of Events: Write down what happened in each scene of this chapter and how it relates to the theme of the book.

Scene	Passage	Location	Characters	What Happened?
8	3: 1-21			
9	3:22-36	Jordan River		

2. It is important to notice recurring themes throughout a literary work. This is not different for Biblical narratives. The author is developing themes and motifs throughout this gospel. What information is revealed about the *signs* which Jesus performed and about belief in Christ? Do you notice any other repeated words in this Chapter? What is it and what do you learn about that repeated word/idea?

Signs:

Believe (any form of the word): Used 7 times between verses 12-18)

Other repeated words/idea:

3. John 3:14 makes an interesting reference to an Old Testament account. "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up". Read this account in Numbers 21:1-9. How does it relate to the conversation that Jesus is having with Nicodemus?

4. Do you learn anything about **God the Father** or the **Holy Spirit** in Chapter 3? Write it below.
Afterwards, take time to praise your great God.

5. What do you observe about our Lord, **Jesus Christ**?

a. What do you learn about His *character*?

b. How does he interact with *people*?

c. How does Jesus conduct *ministry*?

d. What *names/titles* of Jesus are mentioned, if any?

6. Pray: As you just took time to observe your Lord, now take time to praise God for the person and work of Jesus Christ. Be sure to thank God that Christ's perfect life has been credited to your account as if you lived it.

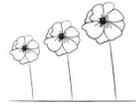
7. John 3 gives insight into the lives of two men, Nicodemus and John the Baptist. What do you learn about them? Do you learn anything from them?

Nicodemus:

John the Baptist:

8. The Book of John is full of **irony** and our first example of this is in chapter 2. There is another in Chapter 3. Remind yourself of the meaning of irony from last week's lesson:
 - a. the expression of one's meaning by using language that normally signifies the opposite, typically for humorous or emphatic effect
 - b. a state of affairs or an event that seems deliberately contrary to what one expects and is often amusing as a result
 - c. and a literary technique, originally used in Greek tragedy, by which the full significance of a character's words or actions are clear to the audience or reader although unknown to the character.

Name an example of Irony in John 3:



GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

9. What do you learn about what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ from this chapter? If there are any commands given to believers, list them.

10. Meditate on the connection between belief and obedience as you write the Memory Verse, **John 3:35-36** below:



11. Create an artistic expression of this chapter (ie. prayer, poem, picture, acrostic, etc.).