

THE JESUS JOHN KNEW

WEEK 2 SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

CONNECT QUESTIONS

- What's something that happened this week that made you laugh a lot?
- Identify something that is one of those things that just works and is sort of a miracle (for example WiFi or satellite TV or ancient navigation using only the stars). Why does this particular thing impress you?

KEY QUOTE

You don't have to understand how the gospel works in order to experience the new life that the gospel brings. It's simple- just believe.

KEY VERSES

John 3:1-16, Isaiah 61:1-3, Ezekiel 36:24-28, Numbers 21:4-9

PRAYER

Dear God,
Thank you for making our way so incredibly simple. We just have to believe in you. Help us to remember this simple truth in our moments where we feel defeated or that we somehow have to be "good enough." Help us in our times of doubt to remember that you don't require us to understand, just to simply believe in the One whom you have sent.
In Jesus Name,
Amen.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Start by reading John 3:1-16. Why do you imagine the Ruling Council took such an interest in Jesus?
- What do you suppose Nicodemus' believe about Jesus is during this interaction? Take a look at verse 2 again. What does Nicodemus mean by this?
- Remembering that Nicodemus likely had the scriptures memorized, Read Isaiah 61:1-3. In what ways do you suppose this passage influenced what Nicodemus thought about Jesus?
- In what ways have you heard the phrase "born again"? Has this phrase had a positive, negative or neutral connotation in your experience? What have we come to understand "born again" to mean?
- How does Jesus use the phrase "Born again?" Take a look at Ezekiel 36:24-28. In what ways does this passage highlight a new birth or being remade?
- Read Numbers 21:4-9. What are your reactions to this story? Why do you think God asked Moses to lift up a serpent on a pole rather than simply just take the snakes away (John 3:14-15).
- What was Jesus communicating to Nicodemus through the story of the serpent and Moses?
- What is the command of John 3:16?

Next Steps

- Often times, we forget that to believe in Jesus is to be released from the pressure or obligation to earn our salvation or right standing with God. The price has been paid in full. Take a look at Romans 6 where Paul explains this more.
- This week, start each day with thanksgiving, knowing that because you believe in Jesus, you have been fully and permanently rescued from the death that sin brings.