# Gospel of John Weekly Talk Ideas | Sean McGever

## John Chapter 3

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| Scripture suggestion, basic overview, and background:   * v.1 Intro Nicodemus * v.2 What people thought of Jesus and why: Jesus is from God because he does miracles * vv.3-7 What it means to be born again: water & spirit = physical & spiritual (internal & external change) * v.16 God: loves us enough to save us through Jesus * v.17 Jesus: sent not to announce condemnation but salvation * v.18 The eternal difference depends on true (internal and external) belief in Jesus * \*You could include vv.8-15 for campaigners, perhaps a study on Moses (Num. 21:5-8), and/or include vv.19-21 and bring in content about sin/darkness. |
| Possible main point(s):   * The love of God is made most clear in the life of Jesus * Breathing and being “truly alive” are quite different, full and new life is found in Jesus * Agreement and trust are two different things, eternal life is found by putting your full trust in Jesus |
| What this shows us about Jesus:   * Jesus has “come from God” (v.2) * God loves the world (v.16) * Through Jesus God makes available eternal life * Jesus was not sent to condemn anyone (v.17) |
| What this has to do with our life:   * You are loved * While we may be physically alive, we can be spiritually dead * Jesus did not come to condemn you or anyone else * Eternal and spiritual life is available to you through faith, trust, and belief in Jesus |
| Relevant technical details:   * “Pharisee” (v. 1) = The most intense religious experts of the day; obsessed with being perfect * “Rabbi” (v.2) = teacher, a mark of respect, especially with this being said by a Pharisee (Nicodemus) * “Kingdom of God” (v.3, 5) = God’s eternal and universal rule over all; God as King * “Believes” (v.16) = More than intellectual agreement. Faith and (full) trust begin to fill in the meaning of this very important word. |
| Possible illustrations:   * Your (or any) birth story (pictures, video?)... Or a birthday story. * Make a short slideshow with pictures of faces from your club or school with the constant title “God loves...” then pan out to a picture of the school, or further out. * Birth certificate vs. Pulse. Birth certificate (physical proof of my “life”) compare this to your pulse (stethoscope, blood pressure monitor) living life to the full, signs of life (spiritual life). * Bring out a globe to illustrate God loves the world * Belief is more than agreement... Engagement vs. Wedding Ceremony (talk vs. reality) |

*For more details see ylhelp.com*

1. **Intro Nicodemus (v.1)**
   1. **1** Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council.
2. **What people thought of Jesus and why: Jesus is from God because he does miracles (v. 2)**
   1. **2** He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.”
3. **What it means to be born again: water & spirit / physical & spiritual (vv. 3-7)**
   1. **3** In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.” **4** “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!” **5** Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. **6** Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. **7** You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’
4. **God: loves us enough to save us through Jesus (v.16)**
   1. **16** “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
5. **Jesus was sent not to announce condemnation but salvation (v.17)**
   1. **17** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.
6. **The eternal difference depends on belief in Jesus (v.18)**
   1. **18** Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.