

THE ULTIMATE GIFT

john 3:1-17

THAT WE MAY HAVE LIFE

GOD DOESN'T WANT SOMETHING FROM YOU, GOD
WANTS SOMETHING FOR YOU

The purpose of the book of John:

"...so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name."

john 20:31

GOD *STILL* SO LOVES

WHEN WE TRULY RECEIVE GOD'S GIFT,
OUR RESPONSE IS TO FULLY SURRENDER
TO THE LIFE AND LOVE HE OFFERS
THROUGH JESUS MESSIAH

JOHN 3:1-17

Pattern in John Chapters 2-12

- A. Jesus performs a sign or make a claim
- B. Results in misunderstanding or controversy (tension)
- C. Leads people to make a choice and to make up their minds about who Jesus is.

NICODEMUS

- A Jewish religious leader, a pharisee, a respected teacher (3:1,10)
- Comes to Jesus at night (3:2)
- Jesus shares with Nicodemus a culture shattering reality – he must be born again! (3:3, 7)

“Without a heart transformed by the grace of Christ, we just continue to manage external and internal darkness.”

-matt chandler

GOD'S GIFT EXTENDS TO THE WORLD

“FOR THIS IS HOW GOD LOVED
THE WORLD: HE GAVE HIS ONE
AND ONLY SON...

- “Born again” refuted the popular Jewish idea regarding the WAY to salvation
- Now Jesus refutes the popular Jewish idea regarding the SCOPE of salvation: God’s love extends to the whole world

GOD'S GIFT FLOWS FROM HIS NATURE

“FOR THIS IS HOW GOD LOVED THE
WORLD: HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON...
JOHN 3:16A NLT

- God is the GIVER of all that is good, right and true (James 1:17; Luke 12:32)
- God's love didn't just feel for the plight of our brokenness. God DID something about it!

GOD'S GIFT IS ULTIMATE

“FOR THIS IS HOW GOD LOVED THE
WORLD: HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON...
JOHN 3:16A NLT

- He gave the most precious thing to give: His one and only Son
- This gift demonstrates the Father's love like nothing else can.

GOD'S GIFT IS ULTIMATE

“When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. 7 Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. 8 But God SHOWED HIS GREAT LOVE for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”

- *romans 5:6-8*

GOD'S GIFT MUST BE RECEIVED

WHEN WE TRULY RECEIVE GOD'S GIFT, OUR RESPONSE IS TO FULLY SURRENDER TO THE LIFE AND LOVE HE OFFERS THROUGH JESUS MESSIAH

- God doesn't want something from you, God wants something for you
- Take hold of God's gift by FAITH "everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16b
- Take the next step to FURTHER SURRENDER "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life." - Psalm 139:23-24

FULLY SURRENDERED

- A. What aspect of *true life* am I missing out on? (Victory over a particular sin, an area of unbelief, a broken or strained relationship?)
- B. What would surrendering to God's love in this particular area look like for me?
- C. In what ways do I need to surrender to the life of Jesus right now?
- D. In what ways do I need to embrace the Father's love?