

# John 3:16-21

CG Discussion Guide// Week of November 13, 2022

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## INTRODUCTION:

- Icebreaker: What is one thing we would never guess about you?
- Take some time to pray for one another's needs and requests (refer to Prayer Guide as needed)
- Harbor Network sister church to pray for: Redeemer Fellowship Church, Evansville, IN (Lead Pastor: Denton Ice)
- Choose discussion questions, prayer guide, or abide time questions depending on your group's needs

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- V. 16: If the evidence for the quality and quantity of God's love is the giving of His Son, how would you describe God's love for the world?
  - What does it teach us about God to know that He loved the "world" and not just "His people"? (in Old Testament and Jewish teaching, the people of God, the Jewish nation, is usually distinguished from the world, or the nations.)
  - How have you experienced the love of God for you recently?
- V. 17: Why would there be need to clarify that the sending of the Son is to save the world and not to condemn it? (Remember how the OT describes the coming of the Lord or the day of the Lord, for example, Obadiah 15, Isaiah 13:6-9)
  - How would that inform how we share about Jesus to people?
- V. 18: Why is it that the passage describes those who do not believe in the Son as "condemned already," rather than "will be condemned"?
  - How does it strike you that a verdict of innocence is rendered simply through believing in the Son?
  - What is the significance of believing in the "name" of the Son? Why the name in particular?
- V. 19-20:
  - Who or what is the light here (cf. Jn 1:4-5)?
  - Why would the people who do evil want to hide their evil works in the darkness?
  - Why would people hate the light for exposing their evil deeds?
- V. 21: What does it mean to "do what is true"? What does it teach us that these "true works" are "carried out in God"?
  - How would that instruct how we witness and live out the truth of the Gospel?
  - How do we differentiate revealing good works done for God from self-aggrandizing and pride?

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**Abide Time: John 3:16-21**

- What realities are you facing this week? What is occupying your thoughts? How do you feel?
  
- Read the passage and let God speak to you in you reality through his Word. Write down your reflections as God shepherds you:
  - What does the text say is true about God and his character?
  
  - What does it say about the world around you?
  
- How do your reflections above speak to your reality?
  
- What did you experience in your heart and soul as God spoke to you and your reality?
  
- What did you experience in your body, given your reflections and what you experienced in your heart and soul?
  
- How is God inviting you to live differently?
  
- What does all of what you shared above say about God and his relationship with you?

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## WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

*The Bible promises that anything we ask for in Jesus' name – that is according to His will – shall be granted to us (John 14:13-14). In view of this great promise, the prayer requests are all grounded in Scripture. When we pray Scripture, we can be certain that we are praying according to God's will.*

*That does not mean God will grant our requests in our preferred time or according to our frail wisdom; but it does mean that we can pray confidently knowing that God delights to answer these requests, for they are His words.*

*Use the accompanying Scripture verses to shape and inform your prayers.*

### **PRAY FOR YOURSELF & YOUR FAMILY:**

- That your daily life will bring honor to the name of Jesus – (2 Thess. 1:11-12)
- That you will cast all of your anxieties on God – (1 Peter 5:6-7)
- That you will consider your trials as an opportunity for joy – (James 1:2-4)

### **PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:**

- That the power of Christ will rest on our church and ministries [Worship Gathering, Community Groups, Men/Women, Youth, Children, etc.] – (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
- That God will give us the wisdom and faith that we desperately need to continue in faithful mission – (James 1:5-8)
- That God will make us fruitful in ministry – (John 15:1-2) – and bold in witness – (Eph. 6:18-20)

### **PRAY FOR OUR CITY:**

- That God will give wisdom to our government (local, state, and national) that we may lead peaceful, godly lives – (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- That the Lord will continue to provide open doors of gospel ministry in IU and the Bloomington community – (1 Corinthians 16:9)
- That the work of God will be displayed in the lives of the members of our sister churches – (John 9:3)

### **PRAY FOR OUR WORLD:**

- That the persecuted church will find fellowship with Jesus as they share in his sufferings – (Philippians 3:10-11)
- That the Lord of the harvest will send out more workers to unreached people groups because they have been gripped by Paul's missionary logic in Romans 10:13-17 – (Matthew 9:37-38)
- That Christ will return bringing the fullness of salvation with him – (Revelation 22:20)

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- November 30: Members Meeting
- December 3: Membership Class
- December 4: Nine Lessons and Carols
- Dec. 11-Jan. 8: CG Break

**Reminder:** All events are listed in the Events tab in our Redeemer app. You can RSVP for specific events by going to the Events tab, clicking on an event, and following the link to register.