

Gospel According to John Small Group Guide:

Week 3

Beginning question: What's your favorite thing to do in the summer?

*Take a moment to pray as a group and ask God for a believing and receptive heart and for God to show you himself more clearly through this study of John.

Read John 3:16-21

From this text: John 3:1-21

How does the surrounding context deepen your understanding of v. 16?

Why do you think people love John 3:16 so much?

Read John 3:1–21. Does reading the text in its context change how you understand John 3:16? In your own words, summarize the main message in one sentence.

Who could you share the bad and good news of John 3:16 with this week?

Read John 15:9-11

Do you believe God loves you? What makes you believe this on your best and worst days?

According to John 3:16, in what way did God love the world? Do you feel loved by this day-to-day? Why or why not?

John 3:22-36

How does John describe his role in the ministry of Jesus?

How does John's perspective protect him from jealousy and self-pity?

How does Jesus want to become greater in and through your life? Ask him for John's humility and joy as you become less and he becomes more.

Take some time to pray for one another and optionally close with the **John 3 prayer**.

Prayer:

Glorious Lord, we must be born from above. We must have life that can only come from You. Help us to embrace the wonderful miracle of regeneration by the effectual calling of Your Holy Spirit. Send Your Spirit to Your people in greater fullness. We will not resist You, O Lord. Please forgive us and help us. We look to Your Son, O God, and we are alive in Him. We do believe in Jesus Christ, and now we live, for You have promised that we have eternal life through Him. We hate our wickedness. Please expose our sinful deeds, and forgive us. We turn toward You again that we might pursue the righteousness that can only come as a gift from You. Cleanse us in that water that comes from above. We rejoice at the voice of the Son of God. Speak to us through Your Word. Our Savior has come from heaven. We receive His testimony, for He is the Truth. We believe in Your Son and will follow Him. Be merciful to us, for we trust in Your holy Name.