

Gospel of John: That You Might Believe

[John 1:1-21](#)

“For God So Loved the World” – March 7, 2021



Introduction

How can we see Jesus rightly, that we may live?

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. You must be born again. ([3:1-10](#))
- II. You must step into the light. ([3:11-21](#))

Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [3:1-10](#)

There is a big difference between believing Jesus can do something and believing in a way that you entrust your entire life to Him (note [James 2:19](#)). The only way for us to see the kingdom of God is to be born again. Without God, our hearts are unresponsive to the things of God, spiritually stone. Therefore, this new birth is a supernatural work of God (v. 8).

Take a moment to reflect on the gracious work of God in your life to bring you from death to life and then to give thanks. Find someone to share your testimony of becoming a Christian with today. Ask other believers to share with you what God did to call them to Himself.

How does this fact that the new birth is a *supernatural* work embolden and encourage your evangelism? It's helpful to know that it is God who brings dead hearts to life. He is our hope, and He accomplishes whatever He wishes. Now, take a moment to pray for those people in your lives who may seem too far gone from believing the gospel. Pray for the brother or sister in Christ who has fallen away. Entrust them all to Christ. God is not bound.

Additional Reading: [Ezekiel 36:25-26](#), [Ephesians 2](#), [Ephesians 4](#)

- 2) Read [3:11-21](#)

Jesus, the 'Son of Man' was lifted up that all who put their faith in Him will be saved. This is how the new birth is possible. That reason God made this eternal life possible, that which motivated him was His love for the world (see v16). Therefore, Jesus expresses God's love for sinners like you and me. The Jesus of the Bible is going to be uncomfortable. He gets into our business and as the King, has every right to command how we live. But His purpose is for our good. Why would anyone turn down this love? Jesus tells us, in verses 19-21: left to ourselves we hate the light and love darkness...we don't want to be exposed.

Are there things that you need to bring into the light or that you love more than following Christ? He stands ready to forgive. In the church, confession should be normal – a celebration of what God has done in our hearts. Remarkably, our God raises the dead to life. He came to forgive not to condemn...but we must step into the light – the light He brings. Ask the Lord to help us love the right things and hate the right things. He is able.

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

***Next week's sermon text:** we turn to [John 3:22-36](#) **"He Must Increase"**