



Session 1: Born Again!

IN

Introduction

In recent history John 3:16 may have been one of the most well known and most quoted individual 'go to' bible verses to describe the gospel. Some would say that this is no longer the case. What do you think? Why?

What other 'go to' verses or Bible Stories are particularly important to you?

UP

Explore

READ John 3:1-17

- How do you feel when you hear the phrase 'born again' – v3 (compare this to the phrase 'born of the Spirit' – v8)? How helpful do you find this as a way of understanding Christianity?
- READ: Numbers 21:6-8. What do you think is the relevance of Jesus referring to this?
- In v16-21 Jesus talks about both condemnation and salvation. How important do you think is it to speak about God's 'condemnation' when we are talking about 'salvation'. What difference (if any) does it make if the person you are talking with is a Christian or not?
- *[optional – if you think it will be helpful]* What you think Jesus means by 'eternal life' in verse 15 and 16? Although this is hard (and perhaps difficult) to imagine what do you believe are the characteristics of eternal life? (See also images of thirst and hunger being met – Jn 4:14 and 6:27, 35, 48, 51, 53–54)

OUT

Impact

READ John 20:38-39 – This time Nicodemus speaks out, in broad daylight, at risk of losing his career or even life.

- Which 'Nicodemus' is more like you in your relationship with Jesus (Jn 3 or Jn 20)?
- What steps might you take to move your discipleship more into the light? – *Spend some time praying for each other in response to this.*