



DOWN
TO
EARTH

JOHN 1-6

Today's Worship Service

PRAISE

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. (Psalm 29:2)

Call To Worship

[“O Praise The Name”](#)

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Cole Griffin
Hastings, Ussher, Sampson
Pastor Mike Matheson

RENEWAL

As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:12)

[“Here Is Love”](#)

[“Sing Your Glory”](#)

Offering

Lowry, Redman, Rees
D'Acquisto, Matheson, Poore

PROCLAMATION

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. (Psalm 25:4)

Reading of the Word

John 3:1-21

Amos Beernink

Reader: This is God's Word for us today.

All: Thanks be to God.

Preaching of the Word

Pastor Mike Matheson

RESPONSE

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. (Psalm 63:3)

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Grace

[“How Deep The Father's Love For Us”](#)

[“God So Loved”](#)

Benediction

Pastor Mike Matheson
Pastor Mike Matheson
Townend
Bergthold, Cash
Pastor Mike Matheson

Sermon Review Discussion Questions

These questions are for *after* the sermon and can be used for Life Group discussion, one-to-one discipleship, or personal reflection and application.

One of the Bible's most beloved and well-known verses comes from this passage. A secretive meeting by night between a teacher of Israel and the Son of God. Nicodemus wants to understand how Jesus is doing these signs, yet Jesus exposes him to a greater truth—in order to see and enter the Kingdom of God, one must be born from above. Jesus explains that it can be done by God alone; this is why he sent his Son into the world.

Discussion Questions

1. What are your first memories of hearing John 3:16? Why do you think this verse has been the “go-to” verse that summarizes the gospel? How well do you think it captures the message of the gospel? How does the passage as a whole add greater clarity?
2. What was it that brought Nicodemus to Jesus? How is his understanding of Jesus lacking (verse 2)? Why is it not enough to see Jesus as a teacher from God that performs signs? What is it that must be understood and believed in order for someone to be saved?
3. How does Jesus expose Nicodemus' lostness? What do you think were the barriers that kept him from understanding who Jesus truly is? What barriers do you see at work that keep people from trusting and following Jesus? How can these barriers be removed?
4. How might Jesus' referring to the serpent in the wilderness help Nicodemus begin to understand? How does that story ([Numbers 21:4-9](#)) help us to better understand why God sent his Son into the world?
5. What keeps people from coming into the light, according to Jesus? What are ways you are tempted to remain in the dark? How can looking to the Son help us experience true life? What are ways we can grow to enjoy the presence of the light (Jesus) in our lives?

In-Sermon Focus Questions

These questions are designed to keep you engaged during the sermon.

1. What is likely the most well-known verse in the whole Bible?
2. What is necessary to see/enter the Kingdom of God?
3. What does it mean to be born-again?
4. How does God show his love for us?
5. What is the connection between the bronze serpent and the cross?
6. What does it mean here (and not mean) to be in the light?

Sermon Notes

Preacher: Pastor Mike Matheson

Sermon: A Conversation with Jesus

Scripture: [John 3:1-21](#)

Date: March 8, 2020

For more information on this topic look into:

John: A 12-Week Study. (Knowing the Bible series) by Justin Buzzard

John 1-12 For You (God's Word for You) by Josh Moody

ESV Scripture Journal

Next Week's Sermon Preparation

These questions are for personal use during the week to help you prepare for next week's passage, [John 3:22-36](#).

Context

1. What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters, or themes?
2. What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

Observation

1. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?
2. Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?
3. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?
4. Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?
5. What surprises are there?

Meaning

1. Are there any 'editorial' comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?
2. Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?
3. What does the passage reveal about who Jesus is, and what he came into the world to do?
4. How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

Application

1. How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?
2. Is there some attitude you need to change?
3. What does this passage teach you about being a disciple of Jesus?

Adapted from: *One to One Bible Reading, A Simple Guide for Every Christian*
by David Helm (Available at the Grace Book Cart)

Dealing with COVID-19 at Grace, with grace

- Don't panic! Rumors, fear, and hysteria often do more harm than the virus itself. Get information from a trustworthy source, like the World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control. Visit www.CDC.gov for the most up to date information in the United States.
- Trust God, pray for those that are sick, and dealing with the virus. Pray for healthcare workers and scientists on the front lines of this situation.
- Wash your hands before you come to church. Wash with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (sing Happy Birthday twice). Wash your hands after church, repeating the same process.
- The CDC recommends replacing your handshake greeting with a wave "hi", or an elbow greeting and a smile.
- If you have a fever, and/or you are coughing and don't feel well, please stay at home! You can listen to the podcast at graceinracine.com.
- Please connect with us on [REALM](#) (our private, online communication tool) We will give any important church announcements and updates via [REALM](#). Call the church office if you need help connecting with us there. 262.632.2111.
- If you're not feeling well, you can still give online at [REALM](#); you can also mail in a check.
- We love you. We want everyone in the congregation to be well and healthy. Let's respond to this situation with love and grace both here at church and with our community at large.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is available at the information center.



Membership & Baptism Class

Put down roots, grow in your faith, become a part of the family! We'd love to have you join us in membership at Grace.

- Meets: Sat., March 28th, 9-Noon
- Next Baptism Opportunity:
Sunday, April 12th
- Register at graceinracine.com

Men's Gathering!

Saturday, March 14, 8 am - 9:30 am

Men's Gatherings are a time for men to connect, be taught from God's word and spur one another in our faith. All men are welcome!

Senior Adult Dinner & Trivia Night!

For those age 50+

Friday March 20th at 6:00 pm.

Soup & salad bar followed by trivia!

Sign-up to bring a dish to share.

RSVP to Barbara Scott: 262-886-8711

or see her at Info Center after service.

Easter Flowers in memory of a loved

one will be available for purchase following services: March 15, 22, & 29.

March Prayer Gathering

Save the date! March 22nd at 5:05 pm! We will meet together for a meal in the commons. After the meal, we'll move to the sanctuary to pray together.

Looking for a place to serve behind the scenes? The Care Ministry is seeking a new volunteer to be trained this year for our Funeral Reception Team Leader position. This person helps coordinate a dessert or dinner reception after a funeral to help bless and care for grieving families. There is no cooking involved, only serving, cleaning, and caring. We need this person to be in place by January 2021. If God is tugging your heart about serving in this way, please contact us at care@graceinracine.com. Training will be provided and there are many helpers in place, we just need a coordinator. Also, if you're available during the day and would like to be a part of this team as a helper, we could use your help as well! Let us know!

Please pray for healing and recovery for those hospitalized or recently discharged: Sue Krekling

On the passing of Michael Toeppe, we extend our sympathies to his father, Jeff Toeppe.

On the passing of Daniel Kratt, we extend our sympathies to his daughter, Colette (Rick) Maass.

Last Week: Sanctuary Attendance: 604 Children's Ministry Attendance: 104

Giving: Last Week: \$26,612 YTD: \$265,717 +/- Budget: -\$7,190