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| ***GBC SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS***  ***THE GOSPEL OF JOHN CHAPTERS 2 & 3***  ***Lesson 2 Week of August 20, 2023*** | C:\Users\Kal\Pictures\Church Logos\GBC\GBC1400x1400N.png |

1. *We begin the lesson by focusing on the Sunday message. After meditating on the message, share one way the sermon shaped your thinking this week.*
2. ***Review****: from* ***last week’s lesson****, what is the* ***theme verse*** *that states the purpose for the Gospel of John? How did* ***chapter 1*** *support the theme verse?*

* *From each of the following three main sections of* ***chapter one****, give either a thought or a verse that was meaningful to you personally:*

1. ***The Prologue*** *(****1:1-18****) ~*
2. ***The Prophet*** *(****1:19-34****) ~*
3. ***The Pupils*** *(****1:35-51****) ~*
4. *The Gospel of John includes* ***eight*** *signs or miracles as a literary framework for* ***chapters 1-11****. There are also a number of lengthy messages or discourses by Jesus that present deep theological truth. This week, we’ll study Jesus’ first miracle in Galilee-providing wine for a wedding (****2:1-12****). We’ll also see His first main discourse in His dialogue with Nicodemus (****3:1-21****). Read the narrative description of the wedding in Cana (****2:1-12****). How does Jesus perform this miracle/sign? What do we learn about this unique setting?*
5. *What does Christ reveal about Himself in the miracle at the wedding in Cana?*
6. *What part of the dialogue or the miracle surprised you or made you wonder?*
7. ***John 2:13-25*** *includes the account of the clearing or “****cleansing****” of the great temple in Jerusalem.* ***Note: all three of the synoptic gospels record a similar temple encounter which occurred under different circumstances three years after this account in John.*** *Why does Jesus drive out the vendors in the temple? Jesus speaks of His own zeal from* ***Psalm 69****. How does that quote from the Lord answer His challengers?*

* *How do verses* ***23-25*** *relate with the clearing of the temple? How do you think* ***Malachi 3:1-3*** *would have played a role in their belief? How do those verses set up an encounter with Nicodemus in chapter 3?*

1. ***John 3:1-21*** *records the first in a series of discourses given by Jesus and recorded by John. In chapter* ***3:1-10****, John records Jesus’ conversation with Nicodemus, followed in* ***3:11-21*** *by Jesus’ discourse on the true meaning of salvation also to Nicodemus.* ***Read 3:1-10*** *and summarize each passage in your own words according to the outline below:*
2. ***Nicodemus’ Inquiry of Jesus*** *(****3:1-3****) ~*
3. ***Jesus’ Insight into Nicodemus*** *(****3:4-8****) ~*
4. ***Jesus’ Indictment of Nicodemus*** *(****3:9-10****) ~*

* *How does Jesus’ answer help Nicodemus understand the true meaning of salvation?*

1. *While* ***3:1-10*** *centers on the* ***divine initiative in salvation****, the message in* ***3:11-21*** *emphasizes the* ***human reaction to the work of God in regeneration****. Describe below Jesus’ words and indicate which verses impacted you the most:*
2. ***The Problem of Unbelief*** *(****3:11-12****):*
3. ***The Answer to Unbelief*** *(****3:13-17****):*
4. ***The Results of Unbelief*** *(****3:18-21****):*

* *As* ***3:1-21*** *lays out God’s work in salvation, describe the work of God in your testimony of how God saved you.*

1. *John the Baptist emerges once again in John’s Gospel, and* ***3:22-36*** *records his final testimony. From* ***3:22-26****, what is the setting and what is the problem?*

* *What is John’s response in* ***3:27-30****? How does John’s response in* ***3:27-30*** *answer the problem? What does John’s response tell us about his character?*

1. *In the final paragraph of chapter 3 (****verses 31-36****), John the Baptist closes his testimony with comments about the supremacy and superiority of Christ. Read* ***verses 31-36*** *carefully, and write the key points John makes about salvation.*