**Book of John**

**Chapter 3**

**Nicodemus at Night**

**Review**

 John the Baptist and first disciples become true followers of Jesus

 …and they revealed who Jesus is.

 Jesus turns the water into wine at a wedding, the first sign that Jesus is from God.

 …and the end of the era of cleansing.

 Jesus cleanses the misuse of the Temple, then reveals His ultimate glory through death.

 A prophetic sign

 …and the end of the era of worship through the temple.

Jesus is going to reveal God’s plan for mankind through his upcoming death and resurrection. But it requires more than God reaching for man/woman and more than robotic obedience.

**Nicodemus at Night (John 3:1-15)**

 Who is Nicodemus?

 Read excerpt from “Born of the Spirit,” by Ray Stedman.

 Both Jesus and Nicodemus are:

 How does Jesus respond to Nicodemus’ questions?

 Born again:

 Born of water:

 Born the Spirit:

 Should Nicodemus have understood these terms?

 Transformation explained in Ezekiel 36:25-27

 How does Nicodemus respond to Jesus?

 To Jesus’ responses

 To the invitation to follow Jesus?

 \*Key to the Book of John”: Moses lifting up the snake in the desert.

 Numbers 21:4-9 Death by poisonous snakes.

 Look at the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and you will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 Jesus will be lifted to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ like a serpent on the stick.

**The New Plan Reveal (John 3:16-21)**

 Who reaches out first?

 What response is needed?

 Discussion: Why does mankind (including myself) what to hold onto darkness?

 How does God accomplish our transformation?

 How is this better than the old way of the ritual cleansing, the temple, the Law?

 How is this more difficult than the old ways?

**John The Baptist’s last and strongest argument for Jesus (John 3:22-30)**

 Followers of John complain:

 John TB view of himself:

 John TB view of Jesus:

 How does God reach for man/woman?

 How does man reach for God?

 What are the two choice man/woman has?

T**hree barriers to believing in Jesus** in this passage:

 Nicodemus:

 Humankind and Darkness (Verse 19):

 Disciples of John the Baptist:

 All the signs or miracle are not guarantees to following Jesus.