

the  Venues
Go Deep

Close Encounters

“Nick at Nite” * John 3:1-21

May 31, 2015

*When were you first told where babies come from?
What did you tell your kids when they asked?*

What can you find out about Nicodemus in 3:1-2?

*What does his identity as a Pharisee and Saducee
tell us about him and his practice of religion?*

*What is significant about his coming to Jesus?
Why at night?*

Read John 3:16

What jumps out at you? What strikes you?

1. John 3:16 is a Rock Star.

*What effect does showing John 3:16 on signs,
eyelids, cups, shopping bags have?*

**2. John 3:16 is about Nicodemus and
people like him.**

In what way are we like Nicodemus?

Read John 3:3 from different translations. Some
translate the Greek word, “again.” Some translate
the Greek word “from above.”

Which do you think was Jesus’ intent?

Read John 3:31 and John 19:11 to see how that
same word is translated.

Read John 3:4

How did Nicodemus hear it?

Jesus uses three phrases in John 3:5-8

- a. Born of water and the spirit (See Isaiah 44:3).
- b. You must be born from above (or again).
- c. The wind blows where it pleases...So it is
with everyone born of the Spirit (See
Galatians 5:14, 18).

What is Jesus trying to communicate?

How does Jesus adjust Nicodemus' thinking and perspective?

3. John 3:16 is an invitation to a way of life.

Read John 3:14-15

What does 3:14-15 have to do with 3:16?

Check out Numbers 21:5-9

How does that event help explain John 3:14-15

Now check out 2 Kings 18:4

What do we learn about our tendency to create idols from this event?

Is it possible that we've turned John 3:16 into a magic spell f-that if we just say the words, we'll be saved?

How can Micah 6:8 and Mark 12:28-31 help prevent us from idolizing John 3:16?