

# THAT YOU MAY KNOW

*A Great Love*  
John 3:16-21  
February 20, 2022

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.  
- John 3:17

## I. BAD WORLD — GREAT LOVE

- In verse 16, John is likely addressing not how big the world is that God loves, but how bad it is (Isa. 13:11; John 1:9-10, 29, 3:16-19, 4:42, 7:7, 9:5, 12:46, 1 John 2:15, 5:19).
- Jesus' mission has as its goal salvation, not condemnation. Condemnation is one result of his work, but it was not the primary purpose (Matt. 1:20-21; Vs. 17).

## II. SALVATION AND CONDEMNATION

- "Believe" is an important word. Those who believe on Jesus are saved (Acts 2:38, 3:16, 10:43, 13:39, 15:6-11, 16:30; Rom. 10:9-10).
- Rebirth into Jesus' Kingdom comes via the work of the Spirit of Jesus. Faith is the fruit of salvation, as is repentance (Acts 3:16, 5:31, 11:18, 16:14; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:8, Phil. 1:29; 2 Tim. 2:25-27; Heb. 12:2).

## III. LIGHT AND DARKNESS

- This is God's judgment: the light has come into the world, but people love darkness because people love sin (Vs. 19; Isa. 30:8-11; Jer. 5:30-31; John 12:46).
- Those who love truth love light. It exposes not only wickedness, but also righteousness (Isa. 9:2; Matt. 5:14-16; Eph. 5:11-14).
- Our good works are "carried out in God." They are not ours either, but the fruit of new life in Christ (Eph. 2:10; Titus 2:11-14).

**KNOW:** God loves this world, but not more than he loves his Son. Whoever believes in his Son has life, whoever does not believe in the Son is condemned. By the grace of God, light has come into the world to expose both sin and righteousness.

**DO:** Come into the light!

### Suggested Reading:

*The Difficult Doctrine of the Love of God* by D.A. Carson (LifePoint Library #230 CAR)

*All of Grace* by C.H. Spurgeon (LifePoint Library #234 SPU)

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### Please Read John 3:16-21

1. What is John teaching us in our passage for Sunday? Why did God send his Son into the world?
2. What is the result of belief in Jesus? What is the result of rejection of Jesus?
3. What is "the judgment?" What does that mean for us?
4. What does the light of Jesus expose?
5. Is it really this simple? Is it really about belief and lack of belief?
6. Are your deeds exposed by the light of Jesus? And if so, what does the light reveal?
7. What is your application from Sunday's message/text?