John 3: Born Again

John 3:1-21: FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

- 1. JOHN 3:1-2
 - Connecting verses 2:24-25 to John 3:1 (John 1:11-13)
 - A true confession from a leader of the Jews
- 2. JOHN 3:3-7
 - A spiritual new birth vs. a physical act of "cleansing and purifying" by following the law
 - High Priest going into the Most Holy Place once a year on Yom Kippur "Day of Atonement" (Leviticus 16:1-4; Hebrews 9:7-15)
- 3. JOHN 3:8
 - Examples of God's use of wind (Genesis 8:1; Exodus 10:13, 19; Exodus 14:21; Psalm 1:4; Revelation 7:1; Song of Songs 4:16)
- 4. JOHN 3:9-12
 - Jesus was astounded that Nicodemus ("<u>the teacher of Israel</u>") didn't know these things
 - Proved Jesus' point that "unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
 - Believing earthly things builds upon the understanding of believing heavenly things (Matthew 13:12)
- 5. JOHN 3:13-15
 - Brought Nicodemus back to ground he understood—the Law ("And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness...")
 - Jesus made a comparison between the faith required in Numbers 21:4-9 and faith in Messiah

6. JOHN 3:16-21

- Transition from salvation for the Jewish nation to salvation for the world
- Jesus' mission of salvation (Jesus' name in Hebrew, Yeshua, means "salvation")
- Every man and woman born physically inherited Adam & Eve's sin nature
- Must be "born again" into the life of the Last Adam in order to have eternal life because of His resurrection from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:44-49)

John 3:22-36: HE WHO HAS THE BRIDE IS THE BRIDEGROOM

- 1. JOHN 3:22
 - Jesus, baptism, and the wilderness (Isaiah 43:19)
- 2. JOHN 3:23-24
 - John the Baptist's ministry overlapped Jesus' ministry for possibly around 6 months (source: Luke's chronology in Luke 3:1-3)
- 3. JOHN 3:25-26
 - They thought he was the Christ
- 4. JOHN 3:27-30
 - John the Baptist acknowledged again that he was not the Christ
 - Only the Bridegroom has the bride; John was the friend of the Bridegroom sent before the Bridegroom to prepare His way
 - Baptism is the way of the Bridegroom (Matthew 3:11-12)
- 5. JOHN 3:31-36
 - The importance of a true testimony given by the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-17, 26)
 - John the Baptist gave a true testimony that Jesus is the Christ (Matthew 11:7-15)
 - Spirit-filled believers are witnesses of Jesus Christ (Isaiah 43:10)