

In the Flesh – John 3
January 7 | Group Discussion Guide

## Begin with an icebreaker, a Scripture reading, and prayer (10 minutes).

Happy New Year! Open your time together by recapping each person's Christmas and New Year's celebrations.

Next, have someone read John 3.

After reading, have someone pray for your group time together.

## Discuss the Scripture and the sermon as a large group (25 minutes).

Take a few moments to reflect on the following questions:

- "Genuine spiritual curiosity leads to genuine spiritual truth." How do you see that reality at play in this passage here in **John 3**?
- Nicodemus sought Jesus in the darkness to understand spiritual matters. How does your
  own spiritual curiosity manifest in your life? Do you have any stories associated with your
  spiritual curiosity leading to spiritual truth-finding?
- Nicodemus initially struggled with the concept of being born again. Are there any biblical truths or teachings that you find challenging or difficult to fully grasp? How do you approach these uncertainties in your spiritual journey?
- What barriers do people face in being spiritually curious? What barriers do people have in finding spiritual truth (see Jesus' words in **John 3:16-21** and his interaction later with the Jews in **John 5:44** as examples)?
- Read Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:14-21. Jesus asserts that spiritual truth reaches its apex in belief in him. How do these two passages affirm that reality? What does that mean for your own spiritual quest?
- How can you practically grow in living out your new birth and belief in Jesus this week (or perhaps this year)?

## Take a few moments to review the Rule of Life document (15 minutes).

If you haven't already, take a moment to review the Rule of Life document found below. If you have already done this as a group, take a few moments to share how it's going and pray for one another in your pursuit of it.

Share with everyone the Rule of Life document that prompts people to "look back" over their past year and to look ahead at this next one. Share with everyone that they should complete it and be ready to share their answers by the next time the group convenes!

You can find that document HERE.

## Finish with logistics and prayer (15 minutes).

- 1. Make sure to inform your group about the study devotions available to help you walk through gospel of John series! You can find that material at <a href="mailto:thecreek.org/devotionals">thecreek.org/devotionals</a>.
- 2. Share any logistics that you need to with your group.
- 3. Finish your group session by sharing people you'd like to see experience being "born again," people who do not know the Lord. End your discussion time praying for those people.

You may use the following prompt to help: "Lord, draw (insert person's name) to yourself. Help them, by your Spirit, to see Jesus lifted high. Bring them into your kingdom through the new birth. In Jesus' name, Amen."