



# THE GREAT GIFT

JOHN 3:16-18



*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 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. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God." John 3:16-18*

**The great gift of God is one you may have never known you \_\_\_\_\_ .**

*You are condemned because you are a sinner who sins.  
Your sin has incurred a debt of death.  
You are accountable to pay the debt your sins incur.*

**The gift of God was \_\_\_\_\_ : His Son, Jesus, whom He sent to us.**

*God gave His one and only Son.  
God gave His gift to the entire world.  
God gave His Son to pay the penalty for your sin.*

**The gift of God's Son can only change your life if you \_\_\_\_\_ in Him.**

*Believing in Jesus means you no longer trust in anything else to be acceptable in God's eyes.  
Believing in Jesus means you accept Him as your sin substitute.  
Believing in Jesus means you now have eternal and everlasting life.*

## THE APPLICATION

\_\_\_\_\_ **God's Gift by receiving it for yourself.**

*But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God ... John 1:12*

\_\_\_\_\_ **God's gift by trusting Him to provide all your needs.**

*He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Romans 8:32*

\_\_\_\_\_ **God's gift by loving others the way He's loved you.**

*Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. Ephesians 3:7*

1. Why is religion appealing to many people? Why do many people reject religion?

2. Read John 3:1-21. Why has Nicodemus come to speak to Jesus? What do you think he expected Jesus to say, judging from his question?

*"Christianity is not just repeating John 3:16 ... it is yielding the heart and the life to Christ."*

Harry Ironside

*"Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life."*

Corrie Ten Boom

*"Grace means undeserved kindness. It is the gift of God to man the moment he sees he is unworthy of God's favor."*

D. L. Moody

*"To attempt to pay for salvation with church membership, prayers, or good deeds is an insult to Christ, who paid the full price—and is a rejection of the gift of God's grace."*

Dave Hunt

*"The thief had nails through both hands, so that he could not work; and a nail through each foot, so that he could not run errands for the Lord; he could not lift a hand or a foot toward his salvation, and yet Christ offered him the gift of God; and he took it. Christ threw him a passport, and took him into Paradise."*

D. L. Moody

3. Why is such a religious man confused about the things Jesus explains to him?

4. What is Jesus' attitude toward Nicodemus? What does this tell you about the character of God?

5. In verse 18 Jesus says that "whoever does not believe is condemned already." What does He mean? How does this statement run against what the world believes about eternal destiny?

6. Read John 19:38-42. Is there evidence that Nicodemus came to understand what Jesus taught him and became a Christian? How do his actions here differ from the scene in John 3? What similarities exist between his path and yours?

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week. Like to plan ahead a little more? Pick up a copy of The Source at a stand around campus or near the exits, or visit [www.cbcfamily.org/events](http://www.cbcfamily.org/events). They're your source for everything going on at Christ Chapel.

**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS EVE WITH US TOMORROW!** We are so excited to celebrate the birth of our Savior with you. If you haven't yet gotten Reservation Reminders, grab them today in the Great Room, Atrium or at [www.cbcfamily.org/christmaseve](http://www.cbcfamily.org/christmaseve).

**CONSIDERING END-OF-YEAR GIVING? HERE'S SOME MORE INFO.** This year, end-of-year gifts are being directed towards Vision 2020, our plan for building the Greene House near TCU's campus and enclosing The Hive at our West Campus. The Greene House will be a permanent home for our college ministry and The Hive will be the future spot for a West Campus traditional worship service! To give to Vision 2020, fill out a Commitment Card (available at the Welcome Desk) or visit [www.cbcfamily.org/vision2020](http://www.cbcfamily.org/vision2020). The last day to give an end-of-year gift is Monday, Dec. 31.

**SERVE OUR SCHOOLS IN THE NEW YEAR.** In 2019 there are lots of opportunities to serve at Christ Chapel's partner schools and make a difference. In just an hour you can mentor a child through a one-on-one relationship. Helping a student improve their reading only takes 30 minutes once a week. You can even be a friend to a teacher with a two-hour commitment. Contact Cathy at [CathyS@christchapelbc.org](mailto:CathyS@christchapelbc.org) to learn more and get involved.

**DID YOU KNOW CHRIST CHAPEL HAS A JOB BOARD?** If you have a passion for ministry and a love for Jesus, become a part of all that God is doing at Christ Chapel! Check [www.cbcfamily.org/careers](http://www.cbcfamily.org/careers) to see a list of current openings.

**LADIES, START THE NEW YEAR AT "WINTER MORNING OF PRAYER."** On Saturday, Jan. 5, join us for breakfast, worship, a testimony on prayer and time to spread out and pray on your own. You're welcome to bring your Bible, journal, headphones and music, plus anything else that will help you spend time with the Lord. We'll meet from 9 a.m. to noon in the Sanctuary. Questions? Email Kristin at [KristinH@christchapelbc.org](mailto:KristinH@christchapelbc.org).

**DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT STORM TO STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE—CHECK OUT RE|ENGAGE IN JANUARY.** Whether your marriage is broken, you are struggling to get along or you simply want to grow closer together, re|engage is for you. Come experience it for yourself beginning Sunday, Jan. 6. To start the process, apply at [www.cbcfamily.org/reengage](http://www.cbcfamily.org/reengage). Questions? Email Julie at [JulieA@christchapelbc.org](mailto:JulieA@christchapelbc.org).

**SAY "YES!" TO THE MOST FUN YOU'LL EVER HAVE ON SUNDAYS.** Every Sunday, our Children's Ministry has a blast sharing Jesus with the next generation. Right now, there are opportunities to jump in and serve with any age, toddlers through Grade 4. Email Stephanie at [StephanieF@christchapelbc.org](mailto:StephanieF@christchapelbc.org) to sign up or learn more.

Have you received God's gift? Spend some time talking to the Lord about what you learned from this sermon and what actions you might need to take next. Thank Him for the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ.