

St. John's EBCs, Everyday Bible Conversations!

EBC 3, 2, 1! – On Location in 2025! Leading to Worship Sunday, September 14, 2025

Reading: John 3:13-17

EBC focuses on bringing the Bible into our Everyday Lives, emphasizing God's Everyday presence by finding connections in our physical world! This week, we focus on focusing – on the cross of Jesus! Click here: <https://youtu.be/VJ4k0SnWZok> Welcome to this week's EBC 3,2,1! Three points, two questions, and one action step!

Three Points

- On this Holy Cross Sunday, we consider again the comforting words of John 3:16. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16) But the words around that well-known verse can also help give us insight today. Jesus likens lifting up the Son of Man to Moses lifting up the bronze serpent in the wilderness.
- In Numbers 21, the Israelites had been sinning and grumbling, and God sent serpents, who bit and killed many of the Israelites. The Israelites repented, and asked Moses to ask God to take away the snakes. But instead, God instructed Moses to make a bronze serpent, so that whoever was bitten could look at the bronze serpent and live.
- Then Jesus concludes our verses in John by assuring: "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him." (John 3:17)


Two Questions

- Do you notice how God "skips a step" in sending Jesus? Unlike the snakes that God sends to punish the Israelites before Moses makes the bronze serpent, where or what is the wrong or punishment for which Jesus does not condemn, but rather saves?
- What does it tell you that God did not simply take away the serpents? Would that not have solved at least most of the problem? As bad things happen – and we ourselves also sin – do we ask God to take away the sin and wrongdoing, or do we ask for God's help, healing and salvation?

Action Step

- Be confident that – even amongst sin and pain – Jesus is here to heal and save! Look toward the cross!

Don't like these questions? Do these verses say something different to you? Great! What it is?



And as always, you are encouraged to find a friend (or two or many) and take an EBC coffee break! Find 15-25 minutes somewhere in the week and share your faith. Have fun finding God this week in your Everyday Life!