

# king's chapel

## *Community Group Discussion Guide*

Week of November 29, 2015

**This Week's Focus:** In love, Jesus came into the world, died in our place, and absorbed the wrath and punishment we deserve, so that whoever believes in him will have eternal life.

**This Week's Text:** John 3:16-21

"He [God] has employed the universal term 'whosoever,' both to invite all indiscriminately to partake of life, and to cut off every excuse from unbelievers. Such is also the import of the term 'world,' which he formerly used; for though nothing will be found in the world that is worthy of the favor of God, yet he shows himself to be reconciled to the whole world when he invites all men without exception to the faith of Christ, which is nothing else than entrance into life." **John Calvin**

**Related Texts:** Numbers 21:4-9, Titus 3:3-6

### **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What are your general impressions about this week's sermon?
- What historical event does Jesus recount in verses 14-15? Reference Numbers 21:4-9. Why did God send the fiery serpents? What cure did God provide?
- How does the word "for" at the beginning of verse 16 connect verses 1-15 with verses 16-21? Discuss how God's love for the world is an overcoming love. Reference Titus 3:3-6. What is the deep need in every human heart that only Jesus' atoning death can overcome?
- According to verse 16, how can we be saved from eternal death? What is the consequence of denying Jesus?
- Discuss how this passage reflects the biblical tension between God's sovereignty and human accountability.
- According to verse 17, what was the purpose of Jesus' coming? What is the apparent contradiction in verses 17 and 18? If Jesus did not come to condemn the world, then why are some "condemned already"?

- What is the light that has come into the world and what is its purpose? According to verses 20-21, what are the two responses to the light? According to verse 21, who receives the credit, praise, and glory for those who live in the light of the Gospel?
- How does this passage equip you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?