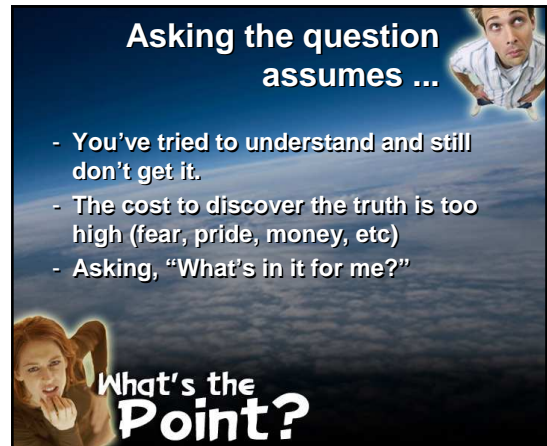




What's the Point?

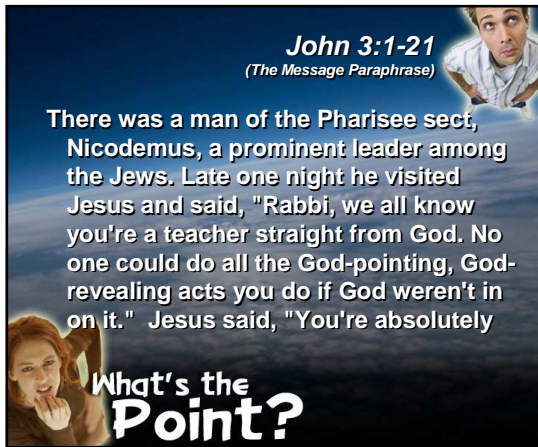
Discussing the meaning behind our faith and beliefs in God..



Asking the question assumes ...

- You've tried to understand and still don't get it.
- The cost to discover the truth is too high (fear, pride, money, etc)
- Asking, "What's in it for me?"

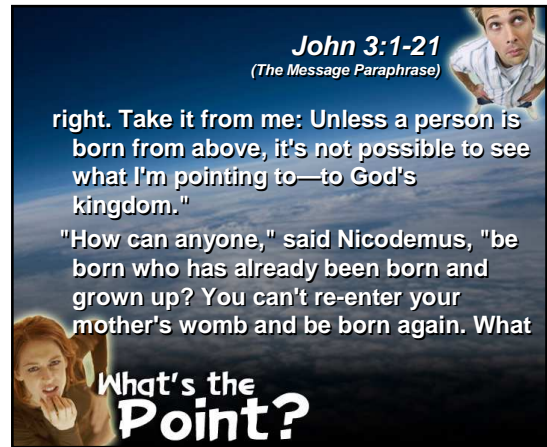
What's the Point?



John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

There was a man of the Pharisee sect, Nicodemus, a prominent leader among the Jews. Late one night he visited Jesus and said, "Rabbi, we all know you're a teacher straight from God. No one could do all the God-pointing, God-revealing acts you do if God weren't in on it." Jesus said, "You're absolutely

What's the Point?

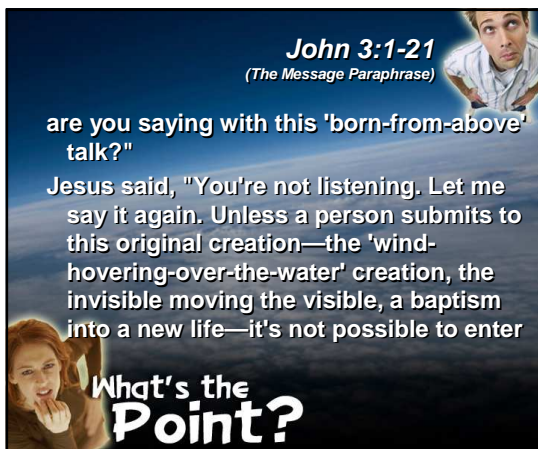


John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

right. Take it from me: Unless a person is born from above, it's not possible to see what I'm pointing to—to God's kingdom."

"How can anyone," said Nicodemus, "be born who has already been born and grown up? You can't re-enter your mother's womb and be born again. What

What's the Point?

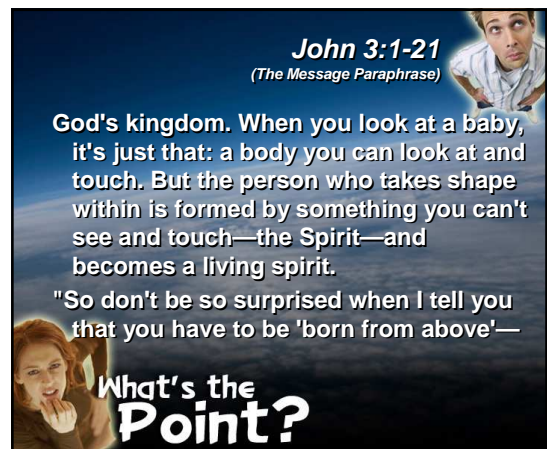


John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

are you saying with this 'born-from-above' talk?"

Jesus said, "You're not listening. Let me say it again. Unless a person submits to this original creation—the 'wind-hovering-over-the-water' creation, the invisible moving the visible, a baptism into a new life—it's not possible to enter

What's the Point?



John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

God's kingdom. When you look at a baby, it's just that: a body you can look at and touch. But the person who takes shape within is formed by something you can't see and touch—the Spirit—and becomes a living spirit.

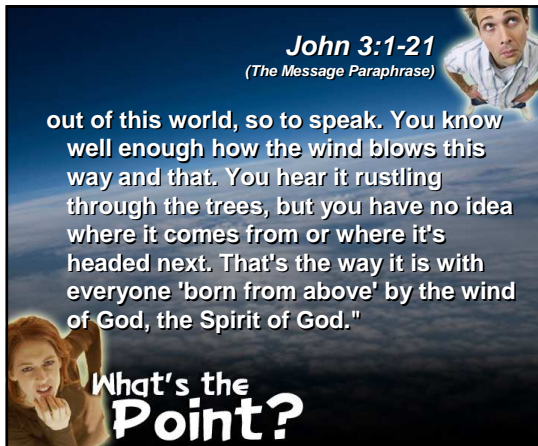
"So don't be so surprised when I tell you that you have to be 'born from above'—

What's the Point?

John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

out of this world, so to speak. You know well enough how the wind blows this way and that. You hear it rustling through the trees, but you have no idea where it comes from or where it's headed next. That's the way it is with everyone 'born from above' by the wind of God, the Spirit of God."

What's the Point?

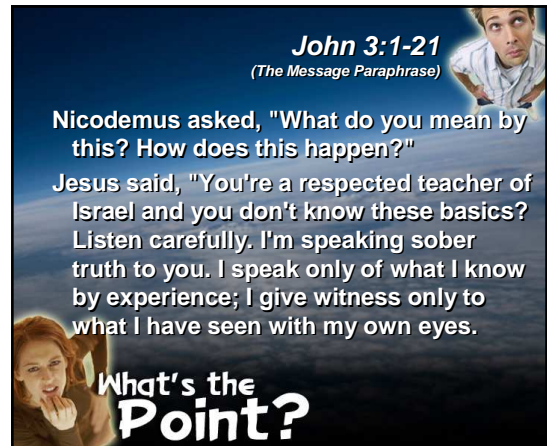


John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

Nicodemus asked, "What do you mean by this? How does this happen?"

Jesus said, "You're a respected teacher of Israel and you don't know these basics? Listen carefully. I'm speaking sober truth to you. I speak only of what I know by experience; I give witness only to what I have seen with my own eyes."

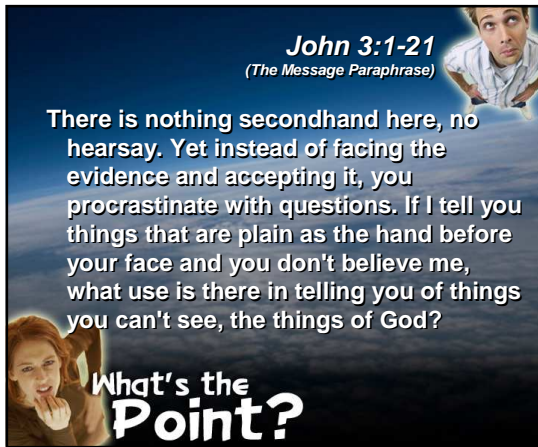
What's the Point?



John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

There is nothing secondhand here, no hearsay. Yet instead of facing the evidence and accepting it, you procrastinate with questions. If I tell you things that are plain as the hand before your face and you don't believe me, what use is there in telling you of things you can't see, the things of God?

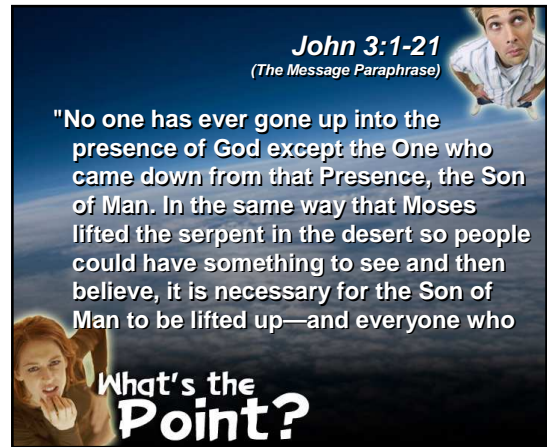
What's the Point?



John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

"No one has ever gone up into the presence of God except the One who came down from that Presence, the Son of Man. In the same way that Moses lifted the serpent in the desert so people could have something to see and then believe, it is necessary for the Son of Man to be lifted up—and everyone who

What's the Point?

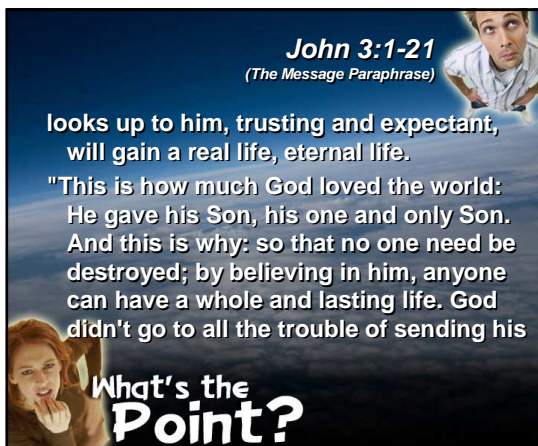


John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

looks up to him, trusting and expectant, will gain a real life, eternal life.

"This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his

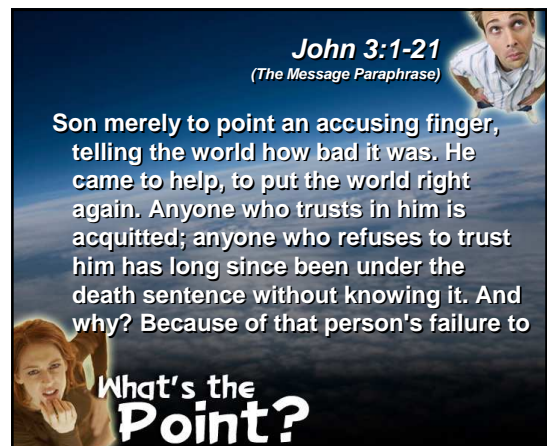
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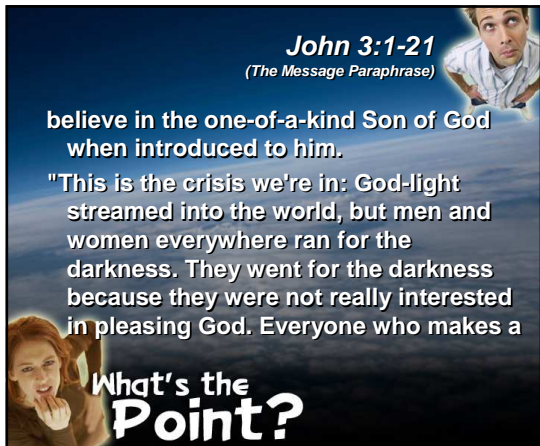


John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it. And why? Because of that person's failure to

What's the Point?



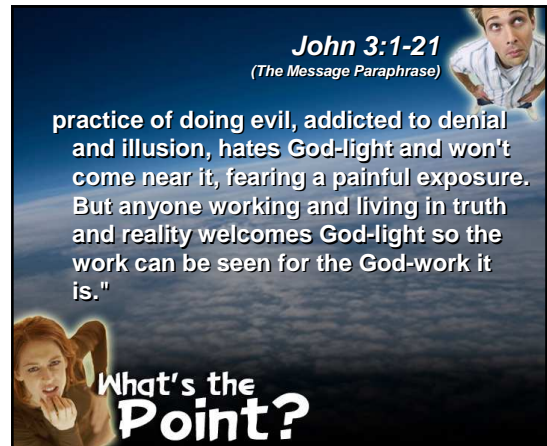


John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

believe in the one-of-a-kind Son of God when introduced to him.

"This is the crisis we're in: God-light streamed into the world, but men and women everywhere ran for the darkness. They went for the darkness because they were not really interested in pleasing God. Everyone who makes a

What's the **Point?**



John 3:1-21
(The Message Paraphrase)

practice of doing evil, addicted to denial and illusion, hates God-light and won't come near it, fearing a painful exposure. But anyone working and living in truth and reality welcomes God-light so the work can be seen for the God-work it is."

What's the **Point?**

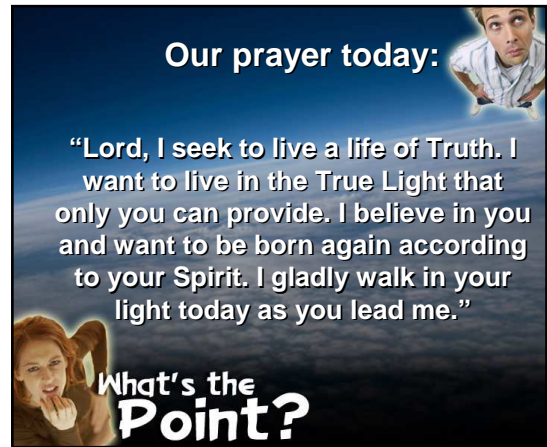


In order to find the answer we are seeking ...

... we must come into the light.

- > light exposes Truth
- > light makes you feel safe
- > light reveals your next step

What's the **Point?**



Our prayer today:

"Lord, I seek to live a life of Truth. I want to live in the True Light that only you can provide. I believe in you and want to be born again according to your Spirit. I gladly walk in your light today as you lead me."

What's the **Point?**



What's the **Point?**