

Jesus and Nicodemus

John 3:1-21

Almost everyone in the world came into the world by being born. Adam and Eve are the only people who were not born. Everyone who has been born into the world has only been born once. Jesus tells us that those who are believers are born twice! It is hard for us as humans to understand this, but Jesus explains it to us in the Bible. He explains it to a man named Nicodemus, a man who was a Rabbi, or a teacher in the church. Today, we will learn how a person can be born twice, as we study Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus.



Prayer

Let me learn of Jesus; He is kind to me.
Once He died to save me, Nailed upon the tree.
Let me think of Jesus; He is full of love,
Looking down upon me From His throne above. Amen.

The Story - John 3:1-21

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. {2} This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

{3} Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

{4} Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

{5} Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. {6} "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. {7} "Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' {8} "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

{9} Nicodemus answered and said to Him, "How can these things be?"

{10} Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not



know these things? {11} "Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. {12} "If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? {13} "No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. {14} "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, {15} "that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

{16} "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. {17} "For God did not send His Son into the world to

condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. {18} "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. {19} "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. {20} "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. {21} "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

Outer Aim - Jesus reveals the nature of the Kingdom of God to Nicodemus.

What the Story Tells Us - Fill in the blanks and then find those words in the WORD SEARCH. The words may be vertical, horizontal, diagonal, and even backwards.

1. _____ had a conversation with a _____ named _____.
2. Nicodemus was a member of the _____.
3. That which is born of the flesh is _____, and that which is born of the Spirit is _____.
4. You cannot hear the sound of the _____, and it blows where it wishes.
5. And as _____ lifted up the _____ in the wilderness, even so must the _____ be lifted up.
6. Unless one is _____ he cannot see the _____.

7. _____ means to be born again.
8. Unless one is born of _____ and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
9. God so loved the world that he gave His only _____ Son, the whoever believes in Him shall not _____ but have _____.
10. Jesus is my _____ from sin.

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|-------|------------|------------------|---------|--------|
| RABBI | NICODEMUS | KINGDOM OF GOD | SERPENT | WATER |
| FLESH | REGENERATE | EVERLASTING LIFE | SPIRIT | MOSES |
| JESUS | SANHEDRIN | BORN AGAIN | PERISH | SAVIOR |
| WIND | SON OF MAN | BEGOTTEN | | |

S A S I J K R D J E B S S E Q P L I X
O R A B B I U T S B O A F J E S U S O
N E V A W N N M K O R N T D E R T H S
O R I F L E S H A A N H E F G H B B S
F T O F P E R I S H A E D O I G E U F
M H R R E E N K I N G D O M O F G O D
A V E J O E T A N W A R P O Y H O T G
N S G U S K C I R R I I R N F X T Y U
R E G E N E R A T E N N F W J Z T H E
D S Q W E R O H J K O O D T A L E G S
E O A S D T I R I P S V B S J T N B S
S M S D T B N J T W O D Y S R M E N J
R E E F I L G N I T S A L R E V E R D

Inner Aim - Jesus has made me a part of His Kingdom by water and the Spirit.

Your Turn - Answer the following question.

Nicodemus is mentioned in the Bible at Jesus' death and burial. When the disciples fled, he stepped up to claim the body of Christ. From these two lessons of Nicodemus, how can we be like Nicodemus?

What God's Word Tells Us - Answer the following questions.

1. What metaphor did Jesus use when describing everyone who is born of the Spirit?
(v. 8)
2. Why do you suppose Jesus told Nicodemus the story of Moses and the serpent?
3. What did Jesus mean when He said a man must be born again? (v. 5)
4. For what reasons did God send His Son into the world, and for what reasons didn't He send Him. (v. 15, 16, 17)
5. What is the only way of salvation? (v. 5, 16)

Passages

John 3:5 - Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Titus 3:4-7 - But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Hymn - TLH #245

God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save.
That all who would in Him believe,
Should everlasting life receive.

Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which thou hast done,
And justified by Jesus' blood,
Thy Baptism grants the highest good.

Christ Jesus is the Ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All that confide in Him alone
Are built on this chief Cornerstone.

If thou be sick, if death draw near,
This truth thy troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.

God would not let the sinner die,
His Son with saving grace is nigh,
His Spirit in the Word doth teach
How man the blessed goal may reach.

Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To Thee, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally! Amen.

Prayer

Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way
With Thee began with Thee shall end the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name. Amen (TLH #47 v 2)