



Unit 21, Session 3

Jesus and Nicodemus

John 3

Story Point: Jesus taught that we must be born again.

One night, a religious man came to see Jesus. The man's name was Nicodemus. Nicodemus wanted to know more about Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we know that You are a teacher who has come from God. No one could do the miracles You do unless God were with him."

Jesus said, "I tell you: Unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Now Nicodemus was confused.

"How can anyone be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. Jesus said, "A person cannot enter God's kingdom unless he is born of water and the Spirit." When a baby is born, he gets physical life from his parents. Physical life doesn't last forever. But the Spirit gives people a better kind of life—spiritual life—so they can live with God forever.

Jesus said, "Don't be surprised I told you that you must be born again." Nicodemus still

didn't understand. "How is this possible?" he asked.

Jesus said, "Do you remember how Moses raised up the bronze snake in the wilderness? Everyone who looked at it was healed. Like that, the Son of Man will be raised up, so that everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life."

Then Jesus told Nicodemus about God's great plan. Jesus said, "God loved the world in this way: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."

Christ Connection: Nicodemus needed new life—eternal life—but he could not do anything to earn it. Eternal life is a gift that comes only from God. God showed His love in this way: He sent His one and only Son to save the world. Everyone who believes in Him will not perish but will have eternal life.