



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.



EXPERIENCE the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- Use the key to decode the phrase that describes becoming God’s child and receiving eternal life.

A	B	D	G	H	I	N	O	Q	R	S	U
N	O	Q	R	S	U	A	B	D	G	H	I

O B G A N R N U A

- What does this story teach us about God?

- What does it mean to be “born again”?

CHRIST CONNECTION

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APPLY the Story

- How was the bronze serpent being lifted up like Jesus being lift up?
- Can a person get into heaven by doing enough good things? Why or why not?
- How is being apart from God like being in the dark? How can we bring friends and family members into the light of the gospel?

CHRIST CONNECTION

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APPLY the Story

- Find John 3:16 in your Bible and write the words below.

- Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for making the way for us to have new life when we trust in Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Numbers 21:8-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 5:17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 2:8-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 1:23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 5:8-10 | <input type="checkbox"/> John 5:24 |