God and Man Through the Bible - Session 13

Jesus and Nicodemus

Introduction

In this very famous story, Jesus meets a man called Nicodemus at night. Nicodemus is a religious leader who is very curious about Jesus' identity and teachings. Jesus teaches Nicodemus an important lesson — that we all need to be "born again." Read the passage and answer the questions to find out what Jesus meant.

Read John <u>3:1-21</u>

- 1. Nicodemus was a religious man so why do you think he came to visit Jesus so why did he visit at night? What kind of people usually come to your house late at night? Is it easy for you to talk about Jesus openly? Why or why not?
- 2. What do you think was the real question that Jesus could see in Nicodemus's heart? What do you think Jesus means when He talks about being born again in verse 3?
- 3. What and where do you think the "Kingdom of God" is? What would the world look be like if Jesus had a kingdom here on earth today?
- 4. According to Jesus, how is it possible to be reborn (born again)? Have you been reborn? How would being born again affect the way a person lives? Do you ever wish you could restart your life?
- 5. How is God's Spirit like a wind? Verses 5-8. List some things that you know work, even though you cannot see them with your eyes? Do Christians seem to be different from other people? How and why do you think that is?
- 6. Why does Jesus talk about Moses and the snake? (see <u>Numbers 21:4-9</u>) Do you see any similarities between this story and Jesus?
- 7. What do verses 16-18 tell you about God the Father and Jesus the Son? Do you believe God loves you? Why or why not?
- 8. What is the difference between people who believe and people who do not? (verse18) What is the difference between being judged and being saved? Do you think God will judge us? Do you think God will judge you? Jesus talks about light and dark. Do you try to hide your sins? Why or why not? What do you think might be the difference between a seeker, and a believer?

Vocabulary:

Religious, Pharisee, evidence, womb, spiritual life, judge, exposed

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For Further Discussion:

- 1. How are you like or unlike Nicodemus?
- 2. Nicodemus was a curious man who was interested in learning more about Jesus. Why do you think people even today want to learn more about Jesus?
- 3. What do you think your life would be like if you chose to be "born again?"

True or False

- a. Nicodemus was a Pharisee.
- b. Jesus did not believe in the Kingdom of God.
- c. Jesus taught that the Holy Spirit is like a wind that blows wherever it wants.
- d. Jesus said that anyone that believes in Him will have eternal life.

OPTIONAL

John 3:16 is probably the most famous verse in the Bible, because it talks about how God loves us and how we can be saved from judgement. Try putting your name in verse 16.

"For this is how God loved____. He gave his one and only Son, so that (if)_____ believes in him, _____ will not perish but have eternal live."

How difference might it make in your life if you became a follower of Jesus. What benefits might you have? What would be more difficult?

For Further Reading:

Peace with God

Who Was Nicodemus in the Bible?