

# ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS

**SUNDAY APRIL 26, 2015**

**Study questions for C4 Connect Groups and individual use.**

**JOHN 3: 1-15**

Can you think of a time when you needed a fresh start? Were you given the opportunity to wipe the slate clean and start over?

**CONTEXT - What does the Scripture say?**

How would you describe Nicodemus to a friend? What is significant about his coming to Jesus in John 3?

**CONNECT - What does the Scripture mean?**

How did the sermon inform you and impact your understanding of this passage?

Jesus' initial response doesn't seem to go with the flow of the conversation. Why would he respond the way that he did?

Compare Nicodemus' and Jesus' ideas of what "born again" means.

According to Jesus, what is his identity and purpose?

What does Jesus say must happen in order to have eternal life and enter into the kingdom of God?

Why does Nicodemus respond to Jesus' explanation with such amazement? (v. 9)

Why is Jesus likewise amazed at Nicodemus's ignorance? (vv. 10-12) Why was Jesus so direct with him? (See Isa. 32:15; Joel 2:28-29; 1 Sam. 10:6; Jer. 31:33)

Theologians refer to being born again as regeneration – the sovereign act of God in which he imparts new spiritual life to us. In what way does Ezek. 36:25-27 relate to John 3:3-8?

How does the story of Moses lifting up the snake in the desert illustrate our need and Christ's offer of salvation? (vv. 14-15; see Numbers 21:4-9)

**CONTEMPLATE - What does the Scripture mean to me?**

Were you "religious" before you became a believer? When did your interest in Jesus begin?

How would you compare your own search for God with Nicodemus?

**COMMUNITY- How will you live this out in your life?**

Ask God to prepare you to speak confidently to others about the role of Jesus in your life. Think about a person you know who needs to hear the truth about Jesus. Plan to spend some time with that person and look for opportunities to tell them about Jesus and how he has changed your life.

**To view or listen to the sermon and download these questions**  
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