

## **Breaking through Barriers to be Born Again** **John 3:1-15**

**John 3:3 (ESV) — Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”**

**Being Born Again is a transformation into a new creation!**

**John 2:23–25 (ESV) — Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.**

**“...many believed in his name...”**

**John 2:24 (ESV) — But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people**

**→ Has Jesus entrusted Himself to you?**

**→ Does the life of God live inside you?**

**Matthew 7:22–23 (ESV) — On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast**

**out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’**

**→ How do you know if Jesus has entrusted Himself to you?**

**John 3:1 (ESV) — Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.**

**John 2:24–3:1 (ESV) — But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man. Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.**

## **Barrier #1 – Reputation**

**John 3:2–3 (ESV) — 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.” Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”**

**➤ What will people think?**

**John 3:3 (ESV) — “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”**

**2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV) — Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**

**Matthew 10:32–33 (NASB95) — Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven.**

### **Barrier #2 – Confrontation**

**John 7:37b–39 (ESV) — “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ” Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.**

**John 3:4–8 (ESV) — 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?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”**

### **➤ What will people say?**

**John 7:50–52 (ESV) — Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee.”**

### **Barrier #3 – Rejection**

**John 12:42–43 (ESV) — Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.**

### **➤ What will people do?**

### **Barrier #4 – Declaration**

**John 3:14–15 (ESV) — And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.**

### **➤ What will people see?**

**John 19:38–40 (ESV) — After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews.**