



**encounters with jesus**  
in the gospel of john

**nicodemus**

john 3:1-15

## John 3:1-2

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## John 3:3-6

<sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again or born from above." <sup>4</sup> "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."



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**water (cleansing)**

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**ezeziel 36:25-27**

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**water (cleansing) + spirit (intimacy)  
= being born again / having new life**







**Sushi** (2 pieces per order)

Nozawa-style Shrimp	\$5.00
Bay Scallops	\$5.00
Salmon	\$5.25
Unagi	\$5.25
Albacore	\$5.25
Snapper	\$5.50
Tuna	\$5.50
Yellowtail	\$5.75
Large Scallop	\$5.75

## John 3:7-10

<sup>7</sup> “You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup> “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. <sup>10</sup> “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things?”

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**Nicodemus should have known better**

**adam and eve:** didn't trust God

**adam and eve:** didn't trust God

**abraham:** didn't trust God; liar



**adam and eve:** didn't trust God

**abraham:** didn't trust God; liar

**MOSES:** murderer; excuse giver

**adam and eve:** didn't trust God

**abraham:** didn't trust God; liar

**MOSES:** murderer; excuse giver

**david:** murderer; adulterer

# God is faithful

**adam and eve:** didn't trust God

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**we want to be like the pharisees**

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## John 3:11-15

<sup>11</sup> “Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. <sup>12</sup> I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

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**We must trust God, not ourselves**  
**It's not about our ability to be faithful**



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"[Joseph of Arimathea] was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen." - John 19:39-40

**who are the nicodemus's of today?**

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**people who think they have it all figured out**

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**people who rely on themselves instead of on God**

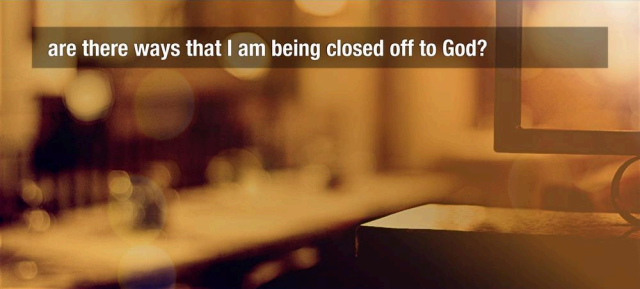
**who are the nicodemus's of today?**

**people who think they have it all figured out**

**people who rely on themselves instead of on God**

**people who have seen something they can't explain**

**are there ways that I am being closed off to God?**

The image features a warm, golden bokeh background with soft, out-of-focus light spots. A dark horizontal bar is positioned across the upper portion of the frame, containing the text in white, bold, sans-serif font. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

**are there ways that I am being closed off to God?**

**are there things I've been holding onto and relying on myself  
for that I want to start trusting God with?**



**are there ways that I am being closed off to God?**

**are there things I've been holding onto and relying on myself for that I want to start trusting God with?**

**are there Nicodemus's in my life that God might want to use me to shake things up for?**