John 3:1-15

1. Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council.
2. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”
3. Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”
4. “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!”
5. Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.
6. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.
7. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’
8. 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.”
9. “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.
10. “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things?
11. 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.
12. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?
13. No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.
14. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,
15. that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

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Lesson 3a GSF Church

**YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN**

John 3:1-15 Key Verse 3:3

“Jesus replied, ‘Very truly I tell you,

no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

**I. NICODEMUS WAS A MAN OF STANDING (1)**

V. 1, *“Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council.”*

**First, Nicodemus Was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Second, Nicodemus Was a Member of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**II. NICODEMUS WAS NOT HAPPY (2-3)**

V. 2, *“He came to Jesus at night and said, `Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.’”*

**First, The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - Not Happy**

Isaiah 55:2, *“Why spend money on what is not bread and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.”*

**Second, The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - Born Again**

V. 3, *“Jesus replied, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.’”*

Ephesians 2:8-9, *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works so that no one can boast.”*

**III. NICODEMUS NEEDED TO BE BORN AGAIN (4-8)**

V. 4, *“‘How can someone be born when they are old?’ Nicodemus asked. ‘Surely they cannot enter a second time into the mother’s womb to be born.’”*

V. 5, *“Jesus answered, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.’”*

**First, Being Born of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

John 1:26, *“‘I baptize with water… but among you stands one you do not know.’”*

Matthew 3:8, *“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.”*

**Second, Being Born of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

V. 6, *“Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’”*

1 Corinthians 10:13, *“No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”*

V. 7-8, *“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.”*

**IV. NICODEMUS STRUGGLED TO ACCEPT THE NEW LIFE (9-15)**

V. 9, *“’How can this be?’ Nicodemus asked.”*

**First,** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Accepting the New Life**

V. 10, *“‘You are Israel’s teacher,’ said Jesus, ‘and do you not understand these things?’”*

V. 11-12, *“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.**I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?”*

**Second, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to Accept**

V. 13, *“No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.”*

V. 14-15, *“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”*

**CONCLUSION**

V. 3, *“Jesus replied, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”*

Romans 3:10, *“There is no one righteous, not even one.”*

**ONE WORD:** You Must be Born Again

Lesson 3a GSF Church

**YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN**

John 3:1-15 Key Verse 3:3

“Jesus replied, ‘Very truly I tell you,

no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

1. What was Nicodemus’ background (V. 1), yet what reveals that he was not happy? (V. 2)

V. 1, “Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council.”

V. 2, “He came to Jesus at night and said, `Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.’”

1. Why couldn’t Nicodemus see the kingdom of God? (V. 3-4), and what did he need in order to enter the kingdom of God? (V. 5, 6-8)

V. 3, Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

V. 4, “‘How can someone be born when they are old?’ Nicodemus asked. ‘Surely they cannot enter a second time into the mother’s womb to be born.’”

V. 5, “Jesus answered, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.’”

V. 6-8, “Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again. 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.”

1. How did Jesus address Nicodemus’ lack of understanding (V. 9-12), and what did Jesus teach about himself as the Son of Man? (V. 13-15)

V. 9, “’How can this be?’ Nicodemus asked.”

V. 10, “‘You are Israel’s teacher,’ said Jesus, ‘and do you not understand these things?’”

V. 11-12, “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. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?”

V. 13, “No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.”

V. 14-15, “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”