

May 25/25 – Small Grp Questions - John 3:1-15 “You Must be Born Again”

1. What is wrong with the world? What is needed to bring change to the problems to our world?

Read John 3:1-15

2. Who was Nicodemus from the details of the passage? What has Nicodemus seen in Jesus?
3. In the sermon Tim brought to the surface the detail that the “sign” that brings Nicodemus to Jesus that night was the cleansing of the temple. The cleansing of the temple was a central act of every revolutionary moment in Israel’s history against foreign rule. Nicodemus is coming to Jesus in hopes of sparking a revolution. What does this tell us about Nicodemus’ perspective of what is wrong with the world and how to address it?
4. (vs. 4) How do you think Nicodemus would have heard Jesus’ response? How does it impact you personally, to hear Jesus saying you are part of the problem with the world?
5. Read Ezekiel 36:22-27. Jesus expects that Nicodemus as *the* teacher of Israel should understand what he is talking about from his knowledge of scripture. How does this passage help us understand what it is to be born again, to be born of water and the Spirit?
6. Read Numbers 21:4-9. The way we come to be born again is to see Jesus lifted up on the cross, as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert. What do you make of the comparison between Jesus and the snake being lifted up? What is Jesus trying to tell us by this comparison?
7. The linkage above invites us to repentance – the problems of our world begin with me, Lord Jesus you are my only hope, make me new by the power of your spirit. What are some of the ways we avoid repentance and why?
8. Read John 7:50-51, John 19:38-40. The new birth is likened to the wind. We don’t know where it is coming from or where it is going, but you can feel, see, hear the results. Do we see the evidence of the new birth in Nicodemus? in us?