

# Sermon Notes

"Being Born Again"  
John 3:1-21, 31-36  
May 29, 2016

Is there any deep-rooted anger or fear in you that makes it hard for you to fully believe this truth about the Father? If so, confess this to God. You might ask someone else to pray with you about this.

## Introduction:

10. Describe in your own words the stark alternatives that face each person (3:18-21, 36).

11. Does your behavior indicate that you love darkness or light (3:19-21)? How happy would you be if God exposed all your current habits and practices to the light? Pray about this. Does anything in you need to change? If so, what and how?

## Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

*Julie Denker - Family Life Ministries (CRU) - Little Rock, AR*  
Pray for God to use Julie in whatever way he chooses as she teaches the curriculum "Beyond Suffering," a ministry of Joni and Friends Christian Institute of Disability.

Worship! Praise God for the way His Spirit goes where He pleases. Thank Him for enabling you to be reborn. Thank the Father for His love in giving the Son to save you. Thank Him for enabling you to choose light rather than darkness.

## 1. Who is Nicodemus? (2:22 – 3:2)

2. Jesus' message: \_\_\_\_\_  
(3:3-8)

## 3. Nicodemus' response (3:4, 9-12, 19-21)

#### 4. Our response (3:31-36, 18)

#### Conclusion:

## Growth Group Homework

For the week of 5-29-16

Questions adapted from Karen Lee-Thorp, ed., John: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1987, pp. 49-58; Douglas Connelly, John: The Way to True Life, Intersity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 2002, pp. 15-17; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 160-61.

#### Getting Started:

1. When have you felt like you wanted to start life all over again?

#### Digging Deeper:

2. Read John 3:1-21. Given the circumstances in which Nicodemus chose to visit Jesus (3:2), what do you think Nicodemus's purpose was?
3. From Jesus' words in 3:3, what question do you think He saw in Nicodemus's heart?

4. In your own words, explain Jesus' answer to Nicodemus (3:3, 5-8).

5. How is it possible to be reborn? Have you been reborn from above? If so, how do you know? If not, what can you do about this?
6. What are some ways in which you can tell that someone is depending on something other than new birth to enter God's Kingdom?
7. How is God's Spirit like ordinary wind (3:8)?
8. Jesus had barely begun His ministry. But according to 3:14-15, what did Jesus already know about His mission?
9. Mediate on what 3:16-17 tells you about the Father. Let this truth really sink in as you pray about it. What difference does (or should) it make in your attitudes and priorities?