

TO HELP US STUDY

1. Who came to see Jesus at night? _____
2. Why do you think he came at night? _____
3. What was his job or position? _____ Which religious party did he belong to? _____
4. Why did Nicodemus think Jesus was "a teacher who has come from God"? _____
5. Jesus told him, "Unless a man is _____, he cannot see the kingdom of God."
6. Did Nicodemus understand what Jesus said? _____
7. Jesus repeated the truth: "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of _____ and the _____."
8. When Jesus finished teaching, Nicodemus asked: "_____."
9. Nicodemus did not understand what Jesus meant about being "born again." What do you think Jesus meant? _____

TO HELP US REMEMBER: *Young ones*—John 3:16, "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son."
Older ones—John 3:16-17

TO CHALLENGE TEEN THOUGHT

Can you explain Christ's teaching in 3:8? What was he talking about in 3:14? Briefly tell why you think Nicodemus could not understand what Jesus tried to teach him.

TIPS FOR TEACHING PARENTS

We can lose our children in the deep water of this story unless we are careful. Most of the truths here are beyond the understanding of many adults, not to mention our little children. We suggest that parents follow the guidance of this lesson sheet and deal with just one main thought—preferably Jesus' insistence, "You must be born again."

Even this thought is hard to explain to a small child. We might explain it as a chance to start over when we make mistakes, possibly illustrating with some mistake the child has made recently and would like to correct. Or—to a child who understands the processes of birth, we might explain that this is the way we become children of God. If we figure out how to put this into words that our youngsters can comprehend, I am sure we parents will understand it much better ourselves.

One word of warning. Unless we watch our words in teaching this lesson, we may get to explain "the birds and the bees"—which might not be a bad idea if our kids are old enough and we have failed to discuss such matters with them.

FOR ADULT STUDY: Ps 19:7; 51:11-13; Isa 1:16-17; 55:7; Mt 18:3; Acts 3:19; Rom 1:16; Eph 4:22-24; 2 Cor 5:17; Rom 6:1-4.