

SUNDAY MORNING TO THE DINNER TABLE

LEARN IT! FIT IT! LIVE IT! DON'T FORGET IT!

Gospel Project: Jesus Among His People
Unit 21/ Lesson 3: Jesus Teaches about New Birth

Romans 15:4, "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us. The Scriptures gives us strength to go on. They cheer us up and give us hope." (NIRV)

Learn it! The Word of God is how God has chosen to communicate to us His people. To know what God wants us to do in life, we must first read and study His Word.

1. Review Previous Lesson/ Jesus Reveals His Mission:

- a. What happened to Jesus when He visited His hometown and taught in the synagogues?
- b. What did the people do when He told them that He was the fulfillment of the Old Testament in Isaiah- the Promised One of God the Father?
- c. How does this apply to your life? What is the cost to following Jesus?

2. Sunday Morning Lesson/ Jesus Teaches about New Birth

- a. Read passage from John 3:13-18.
- b. Review Passage:
 - i. Nicodemus met with Jesus at night, maybe so his meeting wouldn't be noticed by other Pharisees, or maybe because this was the best time for this kind of conversation. Whatever his motivations, Nicodemus sought out Jesus and met with Him. As their conversation began, Nicodemus affirmed Jesus' ministry of teaching and healing. He recognized that Jesus had the blessing of God on His ministry and complimented Jesus for the signs He performed. Jesus' response was abrupt. He didn't accept the compliments Nicodemus gave. Instead, He simply said no one would see the kingdom of God without being born again. In other words, unless you are "reborn"/ made new in the Spirit, you will not have God's salvation.
 - ii. The Old Testament foretold the new birth that would one day come in the Spirit. That was why Jesus told Nicodemus he should not be surprised by what Jesus was teaching him. New birth in the Spirit had always been the plan, a permanent solution to the problem the law only temporarily addressed. Nicodemus' question was sincere. Because he did not understand what Jesus taught, he asked Him to clarify. Jesus did indeed clarify His initial statement. He revealed to Nicodemus that "new birth" is essential for entering into and experiencing the kingdom of God. People don't come into this new relationship with God by simply being spiritual but by following the Holy Spirit. Jesus connected being "born again" to the need of being born of the Spirit. Nicodemus didn't need inside knowledge from Jesus; he needed new birth from the Spirit.
- c. What can we learn from Nicodemus being a religious teacher who didn't know the truth when it came to having a relationship with God?
- d. Why is it important that we realize God sets the rules of how we come to Him, and not the other way around?

Fit it! The Word of God is living and active in your life today. God's Word is for your life too.

Small Group Questions after lesson & at the Dinner Table:

1. Key: The new birth is God's supernatural transformation in the hearts of people.
2. Key Questions from each lesson:
 - a. What does this lesson teach you about God?
 - b. What does this lesson teach you about yourself?
 - c. What does this lesson teach you about the gospel? Are you seeking to share this good news with others?
3. Why is it important to first understand the sin in our hearts in order to fully value God's gift of grace?
4. How would you explain to someone what it means to have "faith" and "believe" using this lesson between Jesus and Nicodemus?

Live it! How will you live life differently through the Bible verses that we read today?

1. Spend time praying about what you learned from God's Word this week.
2. Pray for your family's prayer requests.
3. What should be our response to God's love toward us in Jesus?
4. What steps will you take toward sharing the gospel of Christ with others this week?

Don't forget it!

Christ Connection: Jesus taught that new birth, not religious activity, was how a person enters the kingdom of God and receives eternal life. New birth is given from God the Father through faith in God the Son as a work of God the Spirit. Because of God's love, we are no longer condemned because of our sin, but we have been given eternal life in Christ. [LifeWay Students (2019). (p. Page 109). The Gospel Project for Students: Jesus the Messiah Volume 7 Leader Study Guide Spring 2020 ESV e-book. LifeWay Press. Retrieved from <https://read.lifeway.com>]

DECEMBER BIBLE VERSES:

REVIEW: I Corinthians 13:1-3: If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I am nothing.

BIG IDEA QUESTIONS (new units in bold):

- Who is God? God is our Creator and King
- What is worship? Worship is celebrating the greatness of God.
- What does it mean to sin? To sin is to go against God and His commands.
- How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him.
- What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.
- Is anything or anyone greater than God? No, God is greater than everything and everyone.
- How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as King of Kings.
- What does God know? God knows everything about the past, present, and future.
- Why should we obey God? We should obey God because He made us, He loves us, and His plans are good.
- How did God plan to fix what sin broke? Before He created the world, God planned to send the Messiah to save sinners.
- Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything in Heaven and on earth.
- **Is Jesus God or human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.**
- **Why did Jesus become human? Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.**
- **What makes people special? People are special because we are made in God's image, as male and female, to know Him.**

SONG FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER: [O WHAT A GLORIOUS NIGHT](#) by Sidewalk Prophets
