

# JESUS AND NICODEMUS

Bible Reference: John 3

Date: 6/14/26

Grade: PreK /Kindergarten

1st Service

## Memory Verse:

“He appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him there is no sin.” 1 John 3:5

## Big Picture Question:

Did Jesus ever sin? No, Jesus never sinned.

## Christ Connection

- Jesus is God’s one and only Son. God sent Jesus into the world to rescue people from sin. Everyone who believes in Jesus will live with Him forever

## Schedule

- Welcome/ Intro Activity.....5 minutes
  - Kindergarten in Large Group Lesson @ 9:20.....15-20 minutes
- Circle Time and Bible Story.....10 minutes
- Movement Activity.....10 minutes
- Craft.....5-7 minutes
- Music.....5 minutes
- Friends from Afar.....5-7 minutes
- Prayer and Bible Verse.....10 minutes
- Snack/ Discussion Time.....5-7 minutes
- Group Game.....10 minutes
- Additional Activities.....As Needed

## Notes and Reminders

Happy June! We are praying for this last month of our ministry year to remain just as strong as the rest of our year! We are praying that you can take advantage of these last few weeks with your sweet class and continue sharing God’s love with them!



# SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus reveals the Lord's patience and kindness toward us as we earnestly seek Him. Though Nicodemus had heard Christ's teachings, he had not yet placed faith in the true Ruler and King of the Jews. But here in this chapter, he would learn what it means to be born again.

Nicodemus was curious about Jesus and ventured to see Him under the cover of night. He called Him "Teacher" and declared that only someone who knew God could perform such miracles. Jesus knew the internal struggles of Nicodemus and spoke to his curiosity: "Truly I tell you, unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Jesus' words debunked some Jews' belief that God's salvation was their birthright as His people. Jesus likewise declared salvation for all who would place their trust in Him—Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews) alike.

When Jesus answered Nicodemus' questions, He compared Himself to the bronze snake lifted up in Numbers 21. Just as the Israelites had to look to the snake while trusting in God's salvation, so, too, are we called to look to Christ's work on the cross by faith. Nicodemus no doubt recognized this Old Testament reference; however, he had no way of knowing that Jesus would soon be lifted up on the cross as a sacrifice for his own sin.

In John 3:16, the gospel is proclaimed in a single verse: "For God love the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." Jesus declared God's love for all of humanity, an invitation for anyone to trust in Him by faith. God didn't send His Son to condemn the world, but to save it! (John 3:17)

Pray that the words of John 3:16 will take on fresh meaning in the lives and hearts of the boys and girls who learn from you. *May they realize that salvation is possible by faith alone and that they, too, may be born again into the kingdom of God!*



# JUNIOR SHEPHERD HIGHLIGHT

Jesus' talk with Nicodemus shows how patient and loving Jesus is when people truly want to know Him. Nicodemus had heard Jesus teach, but he did not yet fully believe Jesus was the Savior. In this chapter, he learned what it means to be "born again."

Nicodemus came to see Jesus at night because he was curious. He called Jesus "Teacher" and said only someone sent by God could do such miracles. Jesus explained that no one can see God's kingdom unless they are born again. He taught that salvation is not based on family background or being Jewish. It is for anyone who trusts in Him.

Jesus compared Himself to the bronze snake in Numbers 21. The Israelites had to look at the snake and trust God to save them. In the same way, people must trust in Jesus and what He did on the cross for their sins.

John 3:16 gives the message of the gospel in one verse: God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son so everyone who believes in Him can have eternal life. Jesus came to save the world, not condemn it.

Pray that boys and girls will understand John 3:16 and know they can be saved through faith in Jesus and become part of God's family.



# OUTLINE



## Welcome and Intro Activity

5 minutes

Welcome each child and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

- Roll out a large piece of black paper on a table. Tape the corners down to hold it in place. Lead children to create a nighttime sky by drawing stars with chalk. Demonstrate how to trace shapes using cookie-cutters or stencils. Provide star stickers for extra decoration. Talk about different things kids see when they look out in the night sky.
- **SAY** This banner looks like the sky at night! Today's Bible story is about a man named Nicodemus. He came to meet Jesus at night. Why do you think someone would go see Jesus at night? [Allow responses.] Nicodemus was a religious leader, and he came at night so others would not see him asking Jesus questions. Not everyone liked Jesus and the things He taught. Today we will learn about some of the things Jesus taught Nicodemus.

## Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes

### Thinking Activity

- Ask children to say what they think the word forever means. Blow bubbles for children to enjoy and explore. Ask kids if bubbles last forever.
- **SAY** Forever means that something never ends. As we just saw, bubbles do not last forever. In today's Bible story, we will learn about something that does last forever. Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever.

### Bible Story

- One night when Jesus was in Jerusalem, a man named Nicodemus came to visit Him. Nicodemus was a religious man who studied God's law. He taught the law and tried very hard to obey it. Nicodemus wanted to know more about Jesus. "Teacher," Nicodemus said, "we know where you came from. You came from God. You are a teacher, and you do miracles. God must be with you." Nicodemus was right. Jesus was a teacher. Jesus came to earth from heaven, and God was with Him. Jesus decided to teach Nicodemus an important lesson. Jesus said, "A person cannot see God's kingdom unless he is born again." Nicodemus was confused. He asked, "How can anyone be born again when they are old?" Jesus explained that a mother gives birth to her baby. But Jesus also taught that the Holy Spirit gives new birth to people's hearts—the kind of birth that allows people to live with God forever. Jesus said, "I'm telling you the truth. You can trust me because I am the Son of Man who has come from heaven." Then Jesus reminded Nicodemus of a story when God's people sinned and were bitten by snakes that made them sick.





- God told their leader **Moses** to make a bronze snake and put it on a pole. When the people looked up at the bronze snake on the pole, they were healed. Jesus said that He would also be raised up like the snake so that everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life. Jesus was talking about when He would be raised up on a cross. Jesus told Nicodemus about God's great plan. Jesus said, "God loved the world so much that he sent his one and only Son to save the world. Everyone who believes in him will not perish but will have life with God forever."

#### Christ Connection

- Jesus is God's one and only Son. God sent Jesus into the world to rescue people from sin. Everyone who believes in Jesus will live with Him forever

#### Review Activity

- Display the Bible Story Picture Poster. Ask children to recall things they remember from the Bible story. Encourage boys and girls to raise their hands if they want to say what they remember. Pass a battery-powered light to children to hold while they share something from the story. Ask specific questions if needed to review different parts of the story.
- **SAY** Nicodemus wanted to know more about Jesus, so he came to meet with Jesus at night. Jesus helped Nicodemus understand that God had a great plan to rescue people from sin. Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever.

#### Movement Activity

10 minutes

Draw a sun on one sheet of paper and a moon on another sheet of paper. Hang the papers on opposite sides of the room. Invite kids to stand in the middle of the room. Point out the sun and moon. Name different actions and activities. If the action you name is something you would do in the daytime, lead boys and girls to move to the side of the room with the sun paper. If it is something you would do at nighttime, guide them to move to the moon paper. Name actions or activities such as eating lunch, going to sleep, wearing pajamas, getting dressed, playing at the park, going to church, looking at stars, hearing a bedtime story, going to preschool/school, and so forth.

**SAY** There are certain things we do in the daytime and other things we do at nighttime. In today's Bible story, Nicodemus went to see Jesus at night. He did not want other religious leaders to see him talking to Jesus. When Jesus was with Nicodemus, He taught Nicodemus about God's great plan to rescue people from sin. Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever.



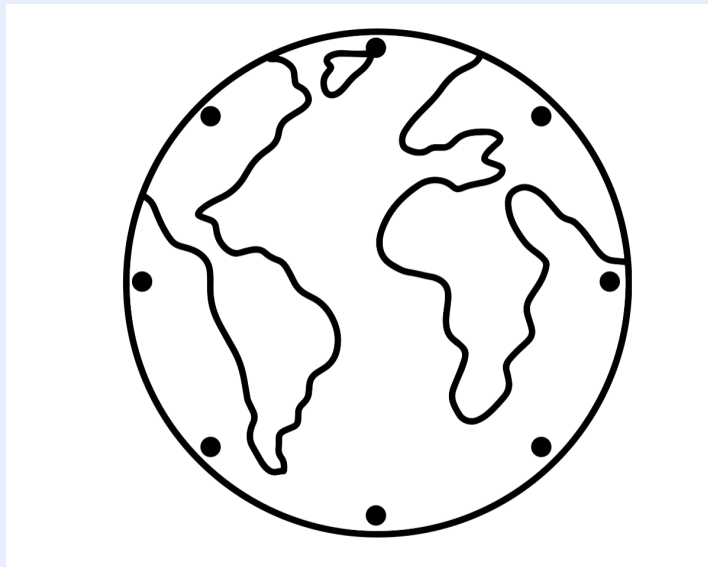


### Craft

5-7 minutes

Prepare a lacing card for each child. Print the “Lacing Card” printable on cardstock. Cut out the world and punch holes according to the marked holes. Cut yarn into 12-inch lengths. Tape one end of the yarn to the back of the lacing card and lace the yarn through the first hole. Demonstrate how to lace the cards by threading yarn in and out of the holes. Invite children to lace their cards and decorate them with crayons. Read the words on the lacing cards aloud.

**SAY** You used crayons to color the world. God sent Jesus into the world to rescue people from sin. When you look at these lacing cards, you can remember that Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever.



### Music

5 minutes

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you like! You may distribute the Activity Page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

### Friends From Afar

5-7 minutes

You will find today’s activity for Friends from Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month’s Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are included. Necessary supplies are located in your bin.





### Prayer and Bible Verse

10 minutes

Prayer (Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- God, thank You for sending Your one and only Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin. Thank You that those who believe in Jesus will live with You forever. Amen

### Bible Verse

- Read the key passage aloud. Form two groups of children on opposite sides of the room. Point to one group with a flashlight. Invite them to repeat the key passage after you. Then point to the other group with a flashlight. Guide them to repeat the key passage after you. Say the verse in short phrases for different groups to repeat as you point to them with the flashlight. (Note: Point the flashlight toward the ground to protect eyes.)
- SAY Jesus taught Nicodemus that God loved the world so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue people from sin. Our key passage tells us that Jesus was revealed to take away sins. On the cross Jesus was punished for something He did not do—He never did anything wrong. Out of His great love, Jesus provided the way for people to be rescued and one day live forever with God

### Snack and Discussion Time

5-7 minutes

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
2. What were some things in the Bible story that made you happy or sad? (Answers will vary.)
3. What teacher did Nicodemus go visit? (Jesus)
4. Did Nicodemus understand everything that Jesus said right away? (No, so Jesus took the time to explain what He was talking about.)
5. Who should we believe in so we can have life with God forever? (Jesus, God's one and only Son)
6. Did Jesus ever sin? No, Jesus never sinned.

SAY Nicodemus found Jesus at night to learn from Him. Nicodemus said that he knew Jesus came from God. Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever. If we believe in Jesus, we can have life with God forever, too.





## Group Game

10 minutes

- Hide baby clothes, bottles, and other items used to take care of babies around the room. Show the kids a baby doll. Talk about how when babies are born, they need someone to take care of them. Guide the kids to find the items they need to take care of the baby. Use the items to play out taking care of babies.
- **SAY** When you were a baby, you needed baby clothes and milk too! In our Bible story, Jesus told Nicodemus that he needed to be born again. That did not mean Nicodemus needed to become a baby again; Jesus was saying that we will get new life from God when we believe in Him. Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever.

## Additional Activities

As Needed

### Finish the Path

- Create a simple path on the floor using painter's tape. Place the Bible Story Picture Poster at the end of the path. Dim the lights in the room if possible. Invite children to follow the path while shining a flashlight on the tape. Encourage them to work together as they follow the path. Invite children to look at the Bible Story Picture Poster when they finish the path and recall something that happened in today's Bible story.
- **SAY** Today's Bible story is from the book of John. In this story, Nicodemus met Jesus at nighttime. Jesus taught Nicodemus important truths about Himself. He said that God sent Him into the world to rescue people from sin. Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever.

### Look at the World

- Invite a child to look at the world map on the wall with you. Point out different places in the world: your country, your continent, bodies of water, and so forth. Comment on God's creativity and goodness in making everything in our world.
- **SAY** The world is a big place with many people! Jesus told Nicodemus that God loved the world so much that He sent His one and only Son to save the world. Everyone who believes in Him will not perish but will have life with God forever. This means that Jesus is God's one and only Son who came to save sinners. Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever.



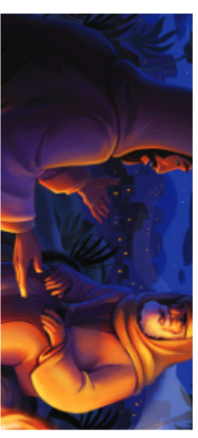
# Color and Trace

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Jesus told Nicodemus about God's great plan. Color the world using the color key. Trace the words to reveal a special truth.



God sent Jesus into the World  
to rescue people from sin.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



## Jesus and Nicodemus

John 3

### STORY POINT:

Jesus taught that anyone who believes in Him will have life with God forever.

### CHRIST CONNECTION:

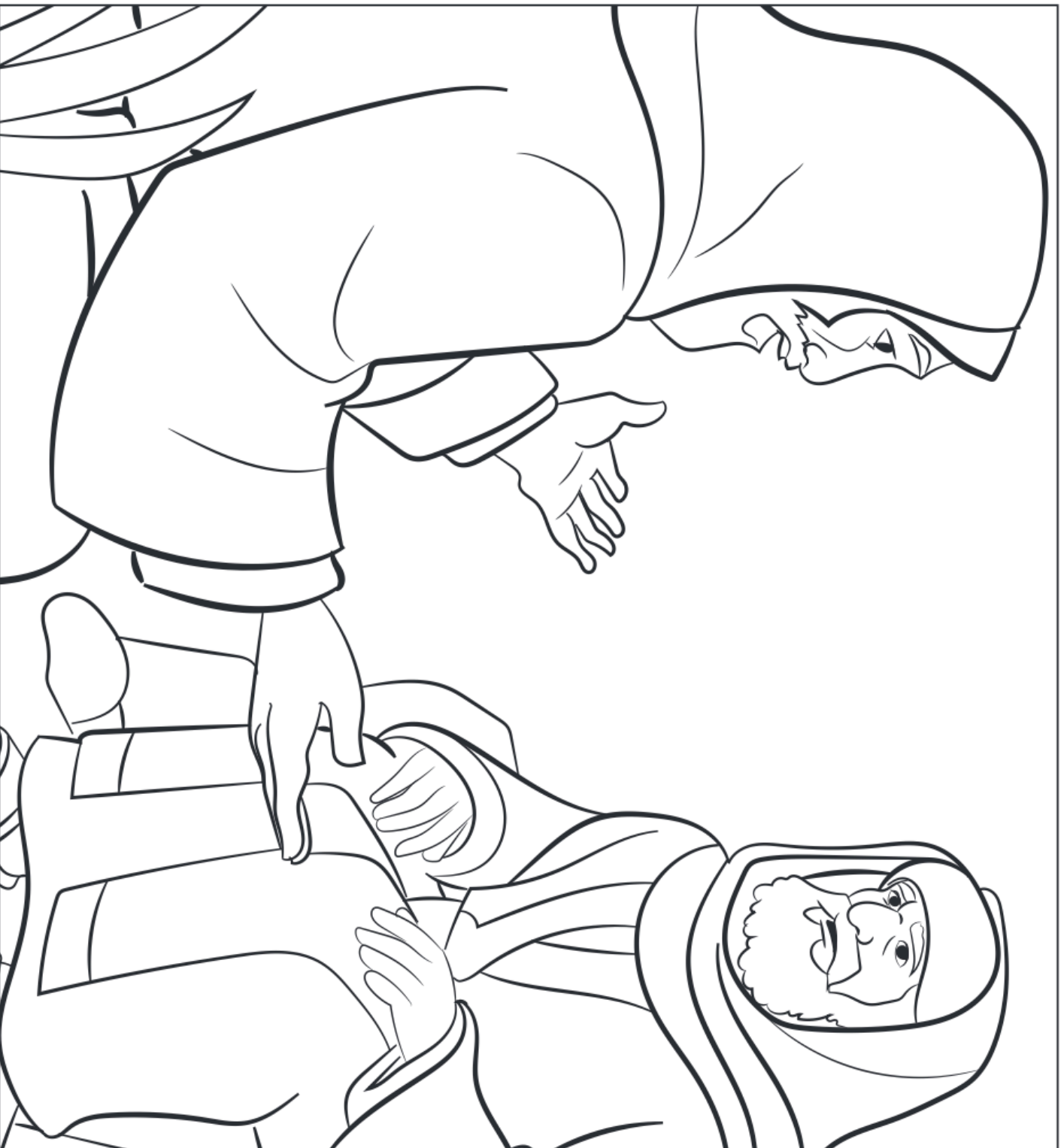
Jesus is God's one and only Son. God sent Jesus into the world to rescue people from sin. Everyone who believes in Jesus will live with Him forever.

### KEY PASSAGE:

1 John 3:5

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Did Jesus ever sin? No, Jesus never sinned.



Scan the QR code for resources to use at home!







