

DISCUSSION GUIDE || March 11 & 12, 2026

REFLECT on **Lent**

1. *Where are you experiencing **challenges, struggles, or difficulty**?*
2. *Where are you seeing **signs of life, growth, or encouragement**?*

REMEMBER

- Nicodemus is a member of the Jewish teaching and ruling council. He probably meets Jesus *at night* 1) to be discreet, 2) to avoid the crowds, 3) to have more time to discuss, and/or 4) because he is simply curious about Jesus' message and methods.
- Nicodemus knows so much *about* God and is an expert in the Hebrew Bible (or Old Testament) but he struggles to understand who Jesus is and what Jesus is saying to him.
- Though Nicodemus is confused, he still takes time to **ask and listen**. The seeker pursues God and God pursues the seeker. (Interesting note: later, in John 7, it is Nicodemus who appeals to the council to "listen to someone first" before passing judgment.

READ **John 3.1-17**

REFLECT on the **passage**

3. ***What word, phrase, or observation** is the most interesting to you from this familiar passage? **Why**?*
4. Think about the setting, content, and context of this conversation. *What does it **reveal about Jesus**? **How does all of that speak to our life with—or to those seeking—him today**?*
5. In verses 10-12, Jesus challenges Nicodemus on what he's *supposed* to know and understand...but doesn't. Pastor Tobi talked about the difference between knowing *about* God and *knowing* God. *What's the **difference**? Have **you** ever had that experience? How do we close the gap between knowing about vs. actually knowing?*
6. *What is Jesus communicating and connecting in **verses 13-15** (citing a story from Numbers 21)?*
7. *What can we **pause and pray** for right now?*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Clean up and pray at the Heather Glen Montclair Playground on **Sunday, March 22 @ 1 pm**
- **LADIES NIGHT** is Friday, March 27