

SEEKER TO SERVANT
Face to Face with Jesus #2
April 23, 2023
John 3:1-21

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” John 3:1-2 (ESV)

Big Idea: Being face to face with Jesus turns _____ into _____.

THREE LESSONS FOR SEEKERS

- 1. Jesus welcomes sincere _____ from _____ of seekers.**

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” v. 1-2 (ESV)

WHAT JESUS WANTS SEEKERS TO KNOW:

Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” v. 3 (ESV)

- **Your best efforts at being _____ are not _____ enough.**
- **You must receive _____ from _____ to enter His kingdom.**

“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

- **New life comes from the work of _____.**

⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.

⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ v. 4-7 (ESV)

⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” v. 8 (ESV)

- **Spiritual birth is verified by _____ in you.**

⁹ “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.

- **Jesus is _____ in the _____.**

¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

- Jesus came to be _____ for our _____.
- Everyone who _____ in Jesus receives _____.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. v. 16 (ESV)

2. Don’t expect an anti-Christian _____ to _____ your Christian faith.

Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, ⁵¹ “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” ⁵² They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee.” John 7:50-52 (ESV)

3. True Christ followers _____ with their faith and _____ their Savior.

After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body.

³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰ So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there. John 19:38-42 (ESV)

Big Idea: Being face to face with Jesus turns _____ into _____.

FACE TO FACE WITH JESUS THIS WEEK

MONDAY

- Read Matthew 7:7-11; Look up “seek” in your Bible concordance and read other verses about seeking.
- What did you learn about seeking? Are you still seeking?

TUESDAY

- Read John 3:16-22.
- Are people born condemned or born innocent? What is the evidence of faith in someone’s life? Do you have evidence?

WEDNESDAY

- Read Colossians 1:15-23.
- If someone asked you, “who is Jesus”, what would you say?
- How has seeking and knowing Him changed your life?

THURSDAY

- Read Mark 10:35-45
- Do you generally ask Jesus to do for you or ask Him how you can serve Him? Pray for the latter this week today.

FRIDAY

- Read John 19:38-42.
- What Nick and Joe did was a simple act but out of their comfort zone. Ask Jesus to direct your actions today.