

Nicodemus 1.0

John 3.1-21

Focus: This passage challenges us to acknowledge everyone's great need for God's mercy by being born again.

RESOURCES:

Here is are two helpful articles on John 3:

<http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/good-news-you-can-t-do-it>

<https://bible.org/seriespage/8-jesus-and-nicodemus-john-31-21>



2016 Annual Priority:

To establish a greater devotion to believing and being shaped by the three great loves embedded in our mission statement's goal of becoming a mature and ministering worshiper of God; love for God, love for the church, and love of neighbor.

Discussion:

- Do you think there are a lot of good people in churches today that aren't born again? Why or why not? What about at NW?
- What does it mean to be born again? List traits of being born again from verses 3-8.
- Why do you think Jesus raised this issue of being born again with a religious leader like Nicodemus? What other criteria are sometimes believed today as needed to enter God's kingdom? How can this be confusing to church people?
- Read 3.9-15. How is Jesus presented as unique in these verses?
- Read Numbers 21.4-9. How does this prefigure Christ? What does it teach about saving faith?
- What do verses 16-18 reveal about the heart of God? How does this impact you as you reflect on your salvation?
- What are the contrasts of the two groups of people in vv. 19-21? How can these verses help us examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith?
- Discuss how you could use this passage to help someone examine to see if they really have saving faith? Do you have a friend that reminds you of Nicodemus 1.0?