

Gospel of John

Study Questions

Chapter 3:

1. **Insight into the Heart:** How does Jesus's conversation with Nicodemus where he answers an unasked question show that Jesus understands what people truly need, not just what they say they need?
2. **Seeing True Needs:** The text says Jesus sees "into our hearts." How can this idea help us reflect on our own spiritual lives and find our real needs?
3. **Judging Others:** The author points out that Nicodemus's motive isn't known, unlike Judas's. Why does the text warn us against judging Nicodemus, and what can we learn from this about judging other people?
4. **The Direct Approach:** Jesus cuts through the small talk and gets to the point with Nicodemus. What's the benefit of this directness in a spiritual conversation?
5. **The Meaning of Night:** Nicodemus comes to Jesus "after dark." What might this nighttime visit symbolize about Nicodemus's spiritual state or his reasons for coming?
6. **A New Idea:** What makes the concept of being "**born again**" so new and surprising to Nicodemus, especially since he was a religious leader?
7. **Regeneration vs. Reformation:** The text separates being "born again" (regeneration) from simply trying to be a better person (reformation). What is the key difference between these two ideas?
8. **The Universal Need:** What does the text identify as the "true need of every human heart," and how does being "born again" address this need for everyone?
9. **Salvation's Condition:** What does this conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus teach us about the only way to enter the "kingdom of God"?
10. **Spiritual Discernment:** How does Jesus's example with Nicodemus show the importance of looking past what people say to understand their deeper, true needs?