

JESUS AND NICODEMUS

JOHN 3:1-21



UNDERSTANDING THE STORY:

Nicodemus knew some things about God and he wanted to obey God's rules.

- *Was it a good idea for Nicodemus to come to Jesus to learn more about God? When did Nicodemus come and talk with Jesus?*

Even though Nicodemus tried to do what was good and right, he needed something else. Jesus told Nicodemus that if he wanted to be part of God's Kingdom and go to heaven, he had to be born again.

- *Is it possible for a grown person to become a baby and be born all over again? Did Jesus mean that Nicodemus would have to become a baby again?*

Just like a baby is brand new, we need Jesus to make our hearts brand new. We all have sin in our hearts and sin keeps us away from God. We need Jesus to forgive us of our sins and make us new on the inside. When Jesus forgives us of our sins, He gives us the Holy Spirit (Who is God) to live within us and He makes us born again on the inside, in our hearts!

- *When a person is born again, guess whose family they are born into? Who becomes their Father? (We stay in our own families, but now we get to be in God's family too!)*

Jesus said that God loved the people in the world so very much that He sent His only Son, Jesus, from heaven to come to earth.

- *Do you know what Jesus did for us when He lived on earth? (Jesus died on the cross. Our sin had to be punished. Jesus took the punishment for our sin, because He loved us.) Think about how much God loves us!*

SIMPLE TRUTHS:

Jesus said that the way for us to be born again and to have our sins forgiven, is for us to believe in Jesus. We need to believe that Jesus is God and that He died on the cross for us. If we believe in Jesus, God promises to give us everlasting life.

- *What is everlasting life? (Everlasting life is life from God that lasts forever, starting here on earth and then lasting in heaven with Him forever and ever.)*
- *What do people have to do if they want to have their sins forgiven?*
- *If a person's sins are not forgiven, Jesus said they will perish. What does it mean to perish? Does God want people to be separated from Him forever and ever?*

Jesus loves each of us and wants us to be with Him in heaven.

- *Do you want Jesus to forgive your sins? Ask Him to do it! God loves you and will answer your prayer! (Offer help in this, if they are interested.)*
- *After we are born again into God's family, we can talk to God our Father in heaven any time, day or night. When we remember how much God loves us, it helps us to love Him more. Talk to God every day, love Him, and ask Jesus to help you obey His words.*

AND REMEMBER...

God loves us and He wants us to love Him and to be part of His family!

MEMORY VERSE:

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16